Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS, LITERATURE, NEWS, &C.

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The Maine Farmer.

N. T. TRUE, S.L. BOARDMAN, } Editors.

Our Home, Our Country, and our Brother Man

Agricultural Fairs in Maine---1867.

[We publish below a list of those Agricultural Societies which hold exhibitions this fall, with the time and place, so far as they have come to our knowledge. The list will be kept standing, and we hope the Secretaries of Societies not mentioned below will forward us the necessary information, including name of the person who is to deliver the annual address, that our list may be corrected as early as possible, so as to include all the Societies that are to hold Fairs this season:]

New England Agricultural Society at Providence, R. I. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Sept. 3d, 4th, 5th and 6th.

State Horse Exhibition, at Augusta, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 3d, 4th and 5th.

Hancock, at Ellsworth, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 1st, 2d and 3d.

Somerset Central, at Skowhegan, Wednesday and Thursday Sept. 26th and 27th.

Waldo, at Belfast, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Sept. 25th, 26th and 27th.

West Penobscot, at Exeter, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 24th, 25th and 26th.

Franklin, at Farmington, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 1st, 2d and 3d.

York, at Saco and Biddeford, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 8th, 9th and 10th.

East Somerset, at Hartland, Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 10th and 11th.

Kennebec, at Readfield Corner, Wednesday and Thursday, Oct 2d and 3d. Address by Dr. N. T. True.

Aroostook, at Houlton, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 25th and 26th.

Penobscot Central, at Bacon's Park, Charleston, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 18th and 19th.

The Relation of Manures to a Rotation of Crops.

There is an intimate connection between the application of manures and the rotation of crops, which should be constantly observed by the intelligent farmer. The two subjects cannot well be discussed separately.

By a rotation of crops we mean that successive cropping of the land by which we can secure a profit from each crop until it is necessary to replenish the soil with manure. The manner and extent of a rotation depends very much upon the manner in which manures are applied to the soil. On a low piece of ground top dressing may be applied and a good crop of hay secured for any number of years. Here no rotation is necessary. Where there is a deep heavy soil, manure may be plowed in abundantly and to a considerable depth, and rotation for a number of years may be secured. The effects of manure will be felt in the hay crop for a long time. If, on the other hand, a short rotation is demanded, the manure should be cultivated or harrowed into the soil. Corn, grain and hay may be cultivated in succession on the strength of the first year's application of manure, but ordinarily an extended rotation cannot be had. So also on light sandy soils, a short rotation is advisable. A lighter application of manure oftener repeated, is generally deemed best under such circumstances.

It sometimes demands a great deal of good judgment to decide how much manure shall be applied to a soil to secure the best results, though we are quite sure that farmers generally fail more frequently in using too little rather than too much manure. Perhaps one of the greatest defects in farming in this State is a too long rotation of crops. Successive crops of hay are taken off and nothing returned until the land becomes actually barren. We think we shall be borne out in our assertion when we declare that it is rare to find five acres of land under cultivation on one farm where it is producing as much as it is capable. We have conversed with many intelligent farmers who have assured us that it requires pretty good management to keep five acres in the highest state of fertility. This only goes to show that we have not, with all our boasted improvements, yet arrived at the highest condition of agriculture on any of our farms. We think the time is coming when farmers will practice changing their fields to pastures and pastures to fields every few years when it can be done. We recently had our attention called to such a farm where the best of land had been turned into a pasture once in a few years. We saw there splendid crops of oats, potatoes, corn and grass, while the labor of carrying on the farm was much lighter than by any other system. The labor of hoeing is less, the breaking up is easier, while a prodigious amount of feed was furnished in the pastures. Not every farmer is so situated, but we think there are very many farms that would be greatly improved by this method. A rotation of crops is in strict harmony with the laws of nature. We find in our forests such rotations constantly going on. The evergreens take the place of a hard wood growth, the latter in turn, after a lapse of years, is in the ascendency. Nature makes her cycles, and we should learn to imitate her operations in such a way as shall best subserve our interests.

Wheat.

We have read with more than ordinary interest the communications of H. Poor, Esq., of Brooklyn, N. Y., on the cultivation of winter wheat in Maine. Good crops of a most excellent quality of winter wheat have been raised in Maine, and now and then we see a field of such wheat, but it is the exception rather than the rule. The history of wheat culture in Maine has been much like that of orchard culture. The destructive winters of 1856–7 to orchards in this State retarded their cultivation, except by the few for many years. So the ravages of insects on the wheat crop have been so great for twenty-five years past that many farmers have given up its cultivation in despair; but we find that the insects have diminished so far as to be no serious injury to the crop, and many farmers are beginning to resume its cultivation.

Among the difficulties incident to a crop of winter wheat is its danger of winter-killing. When the snow comes on early and keeps on during the whole winter, wheat will look well in spring, but if it is situated where it will be covered with ice, it suffers seriously.

Experience shows that the earlier the wheat can start in the spring the surer the crop. This is, we apprehend, the only advantage of sowing wheat in Maine. We have noticed it as a pretty safe rule when the spring was early so wheat could be sown the first of April, that a good crop has been almost always the consequence. This idea leads us to urge upon farmers the importance of preparing their ground for a wheat crop late in the fall. Let it be dressed with manure if need be, plowed, harrowed, and levelled off ready to sow the seed. We have just been informed by a successful wheat grower that he does not stop for the ground to thaw but a little depth in spring, but as soon as possible puts on the harrow and the wheat. We think well of some such plan as this.

There is another point in wheat cultivation which should receive more attention on old farms, and that is clean culture. A good crop of wheat cannot grow so well when it is choked up with weeds. A piece of land that has been cultivated with potatoes and corn, and has had the noxious weeds carefully kept down, will show a difference in the stout looking stalks of wheat and full heads at harvest time. In England, where they raise splendid crops of wheat, the wheat is drilled in and all weeds carefully kept out. We think there is but little of the rocky or gravelly soil of Maine known as the drift formation, where good wheat cannot be raised; but a negligent and slovenly man can no more succeed in raising wheat than in anything else. Like corn it demands high culture in order to secure a sure return. The man with a family, who has thirty bushels of wheat to consume, has put a stop to a large item of family expenses in the purchase of flour at present prices. We occasionally see a farmer who never bought a barrel of flour. Such men are truly independent and very rare.

Wheat may be regarded as one of the most important crops to man, whether we look at it with reference to its nutritive qualities, or to its palatability to most tastes. It therefore should receive careful attention from the hands of the farmer, and everything should be sought out to promote its cultivation.

Agricultural Scholarships.

We mentioned some time since that at the last meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, a vote was passed recommending to each agricultural society receiving the bounty of the State, to establish at least one scholarship in the State Agricultural College, either by a fund or by stated appropriations from year to year, to be granted to some young man residing within the limits of the Society, preference being given to such as proposed to devote themselves to agricultural pursuits within the Society's limits; commending the same and calling to the plan the attention if not approval of agricultural societies in our own State. The same subject has again been brought to our notice in the circular relating to Agricultural Scholarships, just put forth by Hon. J. M. Gregory, regent of the Illinois Industrial University. The laws of Illinois concerning its Industrial University provide that at least one "honorary scholar" shall be admitted from each county in the State, free of charge of tuition, but as other necessary expenses must reach a sum of about $100 per annum, Mr. Gregory presents a plan by which agricultural societies may render aid to such students. This plan, and the advantages claimed for it, we publish below, with the hope that it will awaken an interest in the matter in our own State, and if not adopted, at least be suggestive of something applicable to our own wants that can be put into effectual operation whenever the time for it occurs:

"County Prize Scholarships. It is proposed that each County Agricultural Society shall offer an annual premium of $100 to aid the best scholar from the public schools of the county to attend the Industrial University.

Every young man in the county, over fifteen years of age, shall be permitted to compete for the prize scholarship in a public, competitive examination, to be held under the direction of the Regent of the University, and the officers of the County Society.

The prize scholar shall take the full agricultural course, and shall be entitled to the premium three years in succession, provided he shall maintain a prescribed degree of excellence in scholarship and character.

To secure the payment of the premium, without making it a charge on the annual receipts of the Society, it is suggested that there be raised, by donation, in each county, an endowment fund to be invested by the Trustees of the University or by the officers of the County Society as the Society may direct, and the annual interest be devoted to payment of this premium. In case any county shall endow more than one scholarship, the premiums shall be awarded to students in successive years.

The Advantages of the Plan. The manifold advantages of this plan must commend it to the cordial support of every good citizen.

1. It will secure the opportunities of education to large numbers of the most promising youth of the State.

2. It will secure to agricultural science from the outset a goodly number of superior students.

3. It will bind the Industrial University by so many living bonds to the agricultural interests of the State, and give each agricultural society a vital interest in the University.

4. It will help to insure from the very beginning, the success of the University, and crown it from the outset, with a large measure of usefulness.

5. The splendid prizes it offers to the pupils of the public schools, and its public competitive examinations will react upon the public schools themselves with a most inspiring and benignant power.

Let every county agricultural society take measures at once to have the prize scholarship endowed, or at least the premium provided for the next year, at the coming county fair. These societies are offering premiums for the best cattle and horses; why not for the best boys and the best brains—for scholarship devoted to agriculture?"

Notes from our Copy Drawer.

Fruit Trees. To our correspondent at Dresden, who makes inquiries relative to the operations of Chase Brothers in obtaining orders for fruit trees from New York Nurseries, we reply that the firm are well known to us, and the men composing it are every way, honest, reliable and responsible. The trees and vines they furnish from New York nurseries, have generally succeeded well. We believe the accounts of the failure of New York trees in this State, have come from parties who procured their trees from other agents, and that their failure was in part attributable to the season or some local causes. We believe the Messrs. Chase endeavor to procure only good, healthy trees, and while we would urge upon all to obtain those native to our own soil if possible, yet as many will not do it, but will order of traveling agents, they cannot give their orders to better men, or be sure of getting better trees than from the firm above mentioned.

Central Park, New York. We are indebted to Hon. Andrew H. Green, Comptroller of the Park, for a copy of the Tenth Annual Report of the Park Commissioners, embracing an account of the progress of work upon the same during the year 1866. It is illustrated with four maps, and nine engravings and designs, several of them photographs of scenes in the Park. Attached to the report of the Commissioners is an interesting article presented by Mr. Green on the means of beautifying cities, which abounds in historical and practical statements worthy the consideration of all municipalities.

Warts on Cows' Teats. (Farmer's Son, Alna.) Several applications of spirits of turpentine or lunar caustic will remove warts from cows' teats. An ointment made of equal parts tar and salt is also recommended.

☞David F. Sampson, Esq., of Readfield, has presented three volumes of the *New England Farmer*, (1826–8) to the Holmes Library. They are valuable as a specimen of our early agricultural journals.

Plum Trees.

Plum trees are bearing most profusely in Maine this year. This leads us to notice the importance of heading in the present years' growth at this time. Cut off one half of the present growth immediately, and fruit spurs will put out the whole length of the shoot for the next year. When this is neglected the limbs have a long and naked look with but little fruit. We have trees bending down with fruit which were grafted into the Canada plum only three years ago. We took the precaution to head in the shoots each year, and now have the satisfaction of so soon seeing a handsome crop. The same remarks apply equally as well to pear trees.

A Reform Demanded.

The cruelty to which animals that are being transported by railroad to our large city markets, are subjected, is one of the most important matters in which a reform is demanded, that can be presented to our attention; and when we think of it, we are certainly surprised that it has not before been remedied. Here is indeed a great work for the "American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals" to accomplish, and it is a work which all, in any way situated to aid should endeavor by all means to bring about. Since the article upon this subject, which appeared in our issue of May 8th, was published, we have noticed others of similar import in various journals, all of them urging a reform in this direction, and giving additional reasons for its being effected. In the *Country Gentleman* of August 1st, is a statement that cattle in course of transit to New York and Albany from points west, are so densely packed in cars that a change of posture is impossible, and in that position they remain, as well in the insufferably hot weather of dog days as at other times of the year, without food or water, for from *twenty-four to sixty hours on the stretch!* In New York State there is a law compelling cattle trains to be stopped at the necessary intervals, or the stock, if necessary, to be unshipped in order to afford them rest and refreshment; and the least that can be done is for other States through which long lines of railroads pass, and which are largely engaged in the transportation to market of live stock, to imitate the example of New York by the passage of a similar law. Not only do the dictates of humanity urge some method of transportation by which a greater regard for the comfort and health of the animals can be secured; but slaughtered as they generally are, before they have had any time for rest and for the system, heated and bruised from long exposure and the absence of food or drink, to become restored to its normal condition—it is impossible for them to furnish suitable food for human consumption. No one yet knows how many cases of disease are to be attributed to the use of meat slaughtered while in the above condition, but we are sure, could they be correctly ascertained, the results would be alarming.

The importance of this subject is such that it should be kept before the public, until it is completely remedied, either by suitable laws, as in the State of New York just mentioned—which however only partially reaches the evil—or by some more rational and proper mode of transporting the meat to market. The latter plan seems to us to be the most practicable and rational, and we believe it will be but a short time ere some means will be devised whereby beef can be slaughtered in the extreme west and transported in all its freshness and purity to the great markets of New York, Boston and Philadelphia.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

Entomological Correspondence.

"Please find inclosed flies captured June 8th. What are they? I have the currant worm under observation as you requested and will communicate to the Farmer by and by. Observed the *Selandria Ribis* June 8th, in its perfect state and in swarms hovering over my gooseberry bushes. Was absent a week, at the end of which time I found my currant and gooseberry bushes covered with the worms nearly grown. Of course, hand picking as I recommended, was out of the question. "Soft soap" a man and you will kill him. What won't soft soap kill? I made a solution of one pint of strong soft soap in two-thirds of a pail of water and washed the bushes thoroughly with a whitewash brush, which killed nine tenths of the worms and eggs. If it had been much stronger it would have killed the bushes. Black currant is not troubled by the worms; native gooseberries not so much as Houghton Seedlings and larger, choice varieties. The leaves are dropping prematurely from my large red and white Dutch, white grape and cherry currants; Victoria but little affected; black not at all. I supposed at first it was the soft soap, but it is not. Those I did not wash fall just as much as those I did. The leaves nearest the ground appear to be first affected. They seem to be covered with thousands of reddish brown spots, very minute; the leaf then turns brown, withers and drops. Many of my bushes loaded with splendid ripe fruit, are as bare of leaves as a pole. What does it, and what is the remedy? I can discover nothing by day or by night with the naked eye, or small, botanic microscope, except a small insect, very spry, one-fourth as large as the head of a pin, when the insect is magnified and the pin not. The soft down on the under side of the leaf is eaten off by something, and many, very many holes eaten through the parenchyma to the epidermis of the leaf. By this injury to the leaf and its premature fall, the bush makes but little growth, and the leaf and fruit buds are not matured for another year. What can be done to prevent it?

Yours truly, J. B. Hayes."

Caribou, July 26, 1867.

Note. Our correspondent is pleased to ask information in regard to the name, &c., of an insect and gives no hint or account of when he found it and what it was doing. We do not pretend to be able to name all insects sent in. Those received as above named are four specimens of "flies" and two of a species, or else two male and two female of the same species. They are of the order Hymenoptera and belong to the family *Tenthredinidæ*, properly known as saw-flies, from the fact that the females are furnished with an apparatus in the abdomen somewhat resembling a saw, by means of which they pierce leaves and plants and deposit their eggs. These eggs hatching, produce a small larvæ resembling caterpillars, and called false caterpillars. I should judge that the two larger flies received are specimens of the female "currant worm," *Selandria Ribis*, in the perfect State, and the other two may be the male insects of the same species, or they may be a different insect entirely. Shall be pleased to see the results of your observations upon some of the insects that infest currants and gooseberries, as no doubt you are far better informed from experience on the subject than I am.

"Our Potato Bugs" Again. I find in the *Ellsworth American* a communication from S. Wasson of that place, upon an insect infesting the potato vines, which he calls a "New Enemy of the Potato," and of which he says:—"For a week or more, we have noticed that our early potatoes were wilting, as if ripening or suffering for want of rain, but being too busy at haying to give them more than a passing thought or look. Yesterday some of my neighbors, upon a close inspection, discovered the wilting to be caused by a new, and to them, unheard of insect. The potato leaves are thronged with them, and judging from the devastating progress which they have made within a week, it will take but a very short time longer to completely annihilate both leaves and stalks. The insect somewhat resembles a shelled snail, its head and feet are black, the body of a yellowish tinge, wet and coated over with a slimy film. They cluster on the underside of the leaves. From the description given by Dr. Fitch, it is undoubtly the Three-lined Potato Beetle, which for several years has occasioned serious injury to the potatoes in the West."

If friend Wasson or his neighbors had examined their potato fields slowly during the past year, or had read the Farmer last year they would not have had occasion to call the *Lema 3-lineata*, or three lined leaf beetle, a *new* enemy to the potato. It has been known here for sometime, though it has never been so numerous as to excite any anxious apprehensions. I gave a full description of it in the Farmer a year ago, showing that it was entirely different from the western Colorado Potato Bug, or *Doryphora 10-lineata*. Yet if our beetle should become sufficiently numerous it may prove as destructive as its western relative. A few have been observed in this section this season, but not enough to cause any particular damage. The insect that causes so much destruction in the West is not the three-lined leaf beetle as one might infer from Mr. W.'s remarks, but it is the ten-lined beetle or ten-lined spearman as it is sometimes called. Mr. W. E. Simpson of the *Journal* of this city, in copying the article referred to above says:—"The insect to which Mr. Wasson refers was seen in this vicinity several years ago, and its presence commented on in the papers. We cannot learn that it has injured the crop to any extent. The western potato beetle is entirely another affair. Mr. George E. Brackett, of this city, showed us specimens of the latter insect, which were sent to him from the West. They look like squash bugs about six times magnified."

"Inclosed find a bug of some kind which I found on a potato top. I would like to know what it is, also its habits, through the columns of the Farmer.

Thorndike, Aug. 10, 1867. N. G."

Note. The bug has changed from the larvæ to the chrysalis or pupa form while on the passage, and therefore I can not be positive as to its identity but I think it is a "potato bug"—our potato bug *Lema Trilineata*. I shall know in a few days as it will change to the beetle form soon. If I am right in supposing it to be our "potato bug" you will find full particulars in previous articles which need not be repeated here.

Geo. E. Brackett.

Belfast, 1867.

For the Maine Farmer.

A Letter from Oregon.

Messrs. Editors:—There is a prevailing idea in the minds of young men in the New England States, especially in the State of Maine, that fortunes are easily made in the mining districts and the fertile valleys of Oregon. Allow me, through the columns of the Maine Farmer, which is almost as welcome to me as a letter from the friends that I left in Maine one year ago last May, to contradict this opinion. I have been employed a part of the time in a quartz mill in Baker city, Baker county, Oregon. This mill was built about three years ago, by Daniel Beedy of Farmington, Me., who has had charge of the mill and quartz ledge until last May, when he left for his home in Maine. A part of the time I have been in a carpenter shop, and have also been chopping timber, sawing wood, shovelling mud, hoeing potatoes, &c.

Baker city is situated at the head of Powder river valley, which is called the best valley east of the Blue Mountains. It is about thirty miles in length and from ten to twenty in width. The soil is called very productive, and so it is. But the farmer seldom receives a full crop. Crops here are often cut off, either by crickets or want of rain, or high water in the spring which this country is subject to. When the farmer boy in Maine reads of one hundred bushels of oats and sixty of wheat on one acre of land in Oregon, he is apt to think that Oregon is the place for him. I will mention a few facts without exaggeration. Land has never been broke in this valley for less than six dollars per acre. The first crop, allowing it to be a good year, will not be but half the yield it would upon old ground, which I am safe to say is not, on an average, over thirty bushels of oats or fifteen of wheat per acre. One hundred bushels of oats has been raised from one acre of land in this valley. So William Tell hit the apple on his son's head, and one will happen about as often as the other. Boards are used mostly for fencing. They cost from twenty to thirty dollars per thousand. Oats are worth one and three-fourth cents, and wheat two cents per pound; either can be bought less for cash. Wheat has been sold in large quantities within a few weeks at one cent per pound. Farmers say they cannot pay over twenty-five or thirty dollars per month this year in harvesting, and cannot promise money at that. Not one in twenty has five dollars in cash on hand. In mining camps where they paid five dollars per day one year ago, they now pay but three, and but few of the claims are worked more than six months in the year. A large proportion of the quartz mills have failed. The country is fast filling up with Chinamen. There are plenty of old miners that cannot get work. Board is from seven to ten dollars per week. Groceries are high; molasses two dollars per gallon, salt eighteen cents per pound, &c. Of those that prospect for gold, I can safely say, not one in fifty earn their board. Neither is there one in twenty that lays up or saves for himself that number of dollars in one year. This is the reason, and almost the only reason, that young men after coming to this country cease to write to their friends. The miner's life is one of excitement, especially those that prospect, and the bright hopes of twenty-nine out of thirty entirely fail. There are more that will put these figures at one hundred than at thirty. I shall try while here to fulfill one point of the law, "Whatsoever thy hands find to do, do with thy might," hoping it will hasten the time when I can again welcome home and friends in Maine.

C. H. Bunnell.

Baker City, Oregon, July 26th, 1867.

For the Maine Farmer.

The Crops in Androscoggin County.

Messrs. Editors:—The hay crop, with the exception of some meadow hay, is now, Aug. 13th, secured. The amount harvested is more than an average crop. Probably it has seldom been exceeded. There may not be any more hay in the county than there was last year at this time, but then there was much old hay, while this year the barns were empty. Notwithstanding the weather has been bad during the entire hay season, and we had one severe storm that nearly spoiled a large amount of hay, still, I think it has been secured in fair condition.

The grain crop is somewhat uncertain. There was much of it sown late and it is liable to be injured by the rust. Grain that was sown early on dry land, is now nearly or quite ready for the harvest, and is heavy. All grain, unless it has been flooded with water and "drowned out," has attained a very heavy growth. There has been considerable wheat sown this year and it will yield well. The kernel is plump and heavy. With the recollection of twenty dollars per barrel for flour the heavily laden heads look rich to the owner. It may prove that the midge has left us and will not again claim the mastery of the wheat fields. At any rate, should the crop prove as good as it now promises, there will be a much larger breadth sown another year than there has been this.

Corn is late, but is looking well for the age of it. There is, however, considerable corn on the warm lands up and down the river that is nearly as forward as usual. Should the hot weather continue through the remainder of this month and well into September we may get a good crop. Potatoes on dry land promise well, but the frequent and heavy rains have kept the wet lands so flooded that the potatoes do not promise a great yield.

Of fruit, particularly apples, there is the lightest crop known for many years. I do not recollect of ever having seen the trees at this season of the year with so few apples on them. Are we to have no more fruitful seasons?

Androscoggin.

Green, Aug. 13th.

For the Maine Farmer.

Notes on the Season, &c.

The grain crop now being harvested, is generally heavy, but must be considerably damaged by the recent warm rains. Potatoes have been promising a large yield, having set well, but the decaying tops since the wet, sultry season has commenced look rather ominous for a small, unsound crop. The apple crop will be quite behind that of last season, both in quantity and quality. I have noticed that several varieties are imperfect, cracking or growing scabby, which I think must be attributed to a lack of sunshine, as the trees are looking remarkably healthy and making a large growth. Some kinds, like the Duchess of Oldenburg, which grow in clusters and are exposed to sun and winds are very smooth and well colored. Pears are looking well, and like apples are finer on open topped trees, and where most exposed to the sun.

Allow me here to say that among the scores of choice kinds catalogued as "excellent, melting, buttery, delicious, strong growers and perfectly hardy," &c., I consider the Flemish Beauty and Nickerson two as safe and valuable varieties for general culture in this State as have yet been found. The Nickerson fully sustains its high reputation which introduced it to the public a few years ago. Three years ago last spring, I grafted a branch of an old tree with this sort. It bore the next season, and has continued to give good specimens until it broke down last week under its load of pears, (forty-three on one graft but five-eighths of an inch in diameter.)

I would suggest the plan of setting a pear and plum orchard in connection, as the plum is so short lived and the pear requiring more age. Would it not work well to set pear trees from twenty to twenty-five feet apart, with plum trees between?

This wet weather is rather unfavorable for plums; many are now rotting on the trees, those punctured by the curculio first decaying and then causing those in contact to share the same fate.

This wet growing season has placed an abundance of material within reach for bedding our cattle, and mulching trees. Now is the time to secure a crop by the wayside, in pastures and meadows; it can be stacked if not convenient to use it now.

Truly yours, S. N. T.

Agricultural Miscellany.

The Paris Exposition.

We make some extracts from the notes of W. W. Corbett, one of the editors of the *Prairie Farmer*, now on a visit to the French Exposition.—Eds.

The Cereals. One of the most important classes, is No. LXVII, Group VII. This class includes cereals and other eatables, farinaceous products, with their deravitvies. The space occupied by these products of the earth and of husbandry, is quite large; nearly every nation considering, very justly, that this would form one of the most interesting features of its exhibition.

In amount of specimens of the raw products, perhaps our own country is quite as well represented as most others. Still it must be said that the United States could have done better. Several States, Illinois the most prominent among them, have done creditably, yet were Indian corn and a few samples of wheat out of a great number, especially that from California, excluded, we should have but little left to show the fertility of our soil, or the adaptability of our climate to the production of animal food, or the skill of our farmers as evinced in the tilling of the soil. Besides this, the arrangement of this class of articles in the American department is not such as to show to good advantage that which we have. The world knows from the history of the past, however—and it is well that this is so—that we have a country particularly agricultural in its character and of sufficient extent to feed the whole world when all its fertility is called into requisition; so that after all, it makes no great difference about our show in this exhibition.

Lest some Americans who have seen the really quite imposing exhibition of maize, shelled and in the ear, and looked with pride upon the few giant stalks in the collection of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, consider me as doing injustice to our country, let them look at the award of premiums upon collections of cereals, just made. They will find the gold medals distributed as follows: Russia, three; Prussia, five; France, four; Portugal, two; Spain, one; English Colonies,—(Australia) one; Duchy of Mecklenburg, one. Thus none going to the United States. Of the silver medals, one goes to the United States (California) the rest as follows: Great Britain, one; France, one; Belgium, three; Austria, seven; Spain, three; Italy, four; Chili, one; Egypt, one; English Colonies, (Canada), two.—Among the bronze medals we figure to the extent of six, while France carries off seventeen; Greece, one; Sweden, two; Italy, seven; English colonies, twenty-four; Belgium, five; Prussia, ten; Turkey, two; Portugal, six; Russia, nine; Sweden, one; Morrocco, one; Brazil, one.

Among the Honorable Mentions we find two awarded to the States, while the remainder are distributed in about the same proportion as the silver medals, among other countries.

With the exception of Duryea's preparation of corn, called Maizena, and well known in the States as an article for puddings, &c.,—very nearly the same thing as corn starch, but superior—I think all the higher awards for the preparation of farinaceous matters go to other countries.

Indian corn, is, I find, grown more or less in almost all parts of the world. In few places, however, do the larger varieties approach the products of the Western States. In Australia we have the most successful competitor. Indeed all her cereals are of very fine quality. The valley of the Rhine also contributes quite creditable displays. But for the entire continent,—where it grows at all, they must depend upon the smaller varieties of flint corn.

The people here are gradually being educated up to acknowledge the fact that maize may be really a palatable and healthful article for diet. Each year will witness an increase in the demand of our corn for human food, as well as food for beasts. Where grown, it now forms a large share of the food of the peasantry.

In regard to other cereals it is difficult to state from whence come the best specimens. The case of English Pedigree wheat is very fine, the heads being of gigantic size, but it hardly excels in many respects, that from California, while it must be admitted that Southern Illinois and Michigan send most excellent samples. The Surprise Oats of Illinois find competition, successful perhaps, in the New Market Oats, weighing fifty pounds to the bushel, and in the samples from Sweden. The most uniform grain on exhibition is barley. Almost every country presents it, and it is uniformly good. In the French and German departments we find most beautiful samples of beans in great variety. Much more attention is paid to the cultivation of this crop here than in the States. Of course beans form an important article of diet all over Europe, but one nowhere meets with the "baked beans" of New England. A large, white, kidney bean, called *Haricot*, is to be had at all times at French restaurants, especially in those of second rate character.

From all I can learn, I should judge that rye is every year becoming a less important crop, both in Great Britain and on the continent. The samples I have noticed are in no wise remarkable, either at the exhibition or growing in the fields. It is very certain that the specimens from our own country are not of unexceptionable character. Much of it is but very indifferently cleaned.

With cereals, more perhaps, than anything else on exhibition, different countries will make profitable as well as general exchanges. I know that several of the American Commissioners are making quite extensive collections. From present appearances it is probable that our own State will be endowed with a very rich and choice collection of all kinds of agricultural products, the most of which will be deposited in the museum of the State Society, if the small apartment at Springfield may be dignified with such a title. Hosts of private gentlemen of the West will doubless take with them choice grains with which to experiment upon their own farms.

Our own products are also much sought after by commissioners from other countries, so that in a few years the general interchange must result in great good to all.

Live Stock. In the Horse Department I was most pleased and interested in the fine French "Normandy" horses—this is one of the most valuable, substantial, and practical horses of all Europe—just the horse for the United States, and which ought to be more extensively introduced. I would especially call your attention to the Normandy horse, found in use in almost every omnibus in Paris. The Russians made as fine a display of horses as I ever saw—collected over the wide domain of the Russian empire from Europe and Asia. The Turk, Barb and Arab were exhibited in all their purity by the Bey of Tunis, by Egypt, Turkey, &c. The Dromedary of the desert, and the everlasting donkey, made their tours on the Champs des Mars.

In cattle, the Dutch Hollander (of which there was a fine display) interest me most. Wonderful milkers, good workers, making good beef, large and beautiful, just the cattle for the Western lands and farmers. The French, Normandy, Pyrenees, Brittany, Ayrshire, Jersey and Durhams, were exhibited, but did not surpass our own.

In sheep, there were some superior French Merinos, and the long-wooled mutton sheep surpassing anything of the kind I had seen from France, but nothing superior to our own in the United States.

In goats, I found the Angora and Cashmere in the Zoological Gardens—but nothing equal to our own in Illinois or Ohio, in size, beauty of quality or quantity of fleece;—and since visiting Brussels, the Zoological Gardens at Antwerp, London, Hamburg, Berlin and Vienna, (seeing specimens at each of those places.) I am satisfied we can supass Europe in successfully raising the goat and its fleece in the United States, especially in the West and South-west. I found the fleece worked up in the exhibition and elsewhere into various valuable articles, but not at the fabulous prices claimed by certain importers and breeders in America.

Why Potatoes Should be Pared Thin.

A scientific writer says:—The fact is, almost the sole value of the potato is near the surface; so near that a very thick peel would take the largest part of the nutriment. This is at once made obvious by examining a thin slice of potato with a microscope, when the starch granules will be found lying in great numbers in a belt just under the skin, and decreasing towards the centre. They are placed here for the nourishment of the young sprout, which springs from the 'eye,' and which being like beauty, 'only skin deep,' is required to go no deeper for its food during the germinating process. This starch is, for all practical purposes, the entire nutriment which the potato contains—there being only 2 per cent. of gluten, while 75 per cent. is clear water. If it is worth while to eat the potato at all, it is obviously foolish to throw away the nutriment and save only the water cells.

Science and Common Sense.

Liebig truly says, "Whatever practical agriculturists and agricultural societies may do, whatever they may resolve at their annual meetings, every penny spent will be thrown away, and every year of experimenting will be in vain, so long as these practical men will not submit to the teachings of true experience, to the rules of logic or of *common sense*; from the instant they shall so submit, science will be theirs."

How very different is the meaning of the expression "common sense," when viewed in the light of science as compared with its ordinary acceptation. The words, as in every day's use, are of little value, but how telling is their effect when under the control of science. Some agricultural writers speak of "*common sense unaided by science*;" which seems to be a desire to cater to the prejudices of an uneducated class of farmers. This is beneath the dignity of a man, who should be guided by truth alone. The expression "common sense," as some people use it, is exceedingly indefinite; for every person, from the fool to the philosopher, has a common sense standard of his own, differing from that of every other man, and as no two minds are exactly alike, the varieties of common sense are in proportion to the number of persons who admit such faulty expressions. Science has to do with the observation and classification of the truth or laws of nature. Common sense, as in every-day use long ago, said the world was flat; science has proved it to be round. She has resolved the once mysterious soil into the constituents or elements of plants, and told us of their qualities and quantities. Common sense, as used by the crowd, never said a word on the subject. Why should any one say, as we find in some of the books, that "the roots of plants themselves go out in quest of that food, which *common sense, unaided by science*, tells us is by them communicated to the plant?" To follow this style of argument would be very uncommon sense. Agricultural writers should not draw lines of distinction between the practical intelligent farmer and scientific man. Science and practice should come together; for in exact proprotion to the union between them will agriculture prosper. Why repudiate science, and in the same breath say, "If you wish to make a youth a shoemaker, you must first send him to school in order that his mind may be expanded and prepared to receive the seeds of practical instructions?" If the farmer is to depend so much on "common sense" and so little on science, why does not the shoemaker, feeling that there is nothing like leather, graduate with the waxed end in his hand? Even tinkers, in this spirit, claim that their collaborateurs should be men of common sense, but it is their business to bottom kettles. A tinker need not trouble his mind with the science of mining, or the manufacture of the useful metal which he hammers. The farmer who is averse to scientific education, is but an agricultural tinker. Let the cultivator of the soil arouse to the dignity of his calling.

Let it not be forgotten that science has made the rough places smooth, and interlaced the face of Christendom with railroads, over which the commerce of nations is sent to and fro for the use of busy man.—She has prepared the way for, and sent the steam engine through the trackless forest, disturbing the haunts of the red man and wild beast with the sound of civilization, and, like Prometheus, brought the fire from heaven to be errand-boy of the human race.—*Lowe's Journal.*

The Cultivation of Strawberries.

We doubt if any fruit has given higher or more uniform profits for the last ten years than the strawberry. Possibly a few acres of grapes under extraordinary favorable circumstances of soil and cultivation may have yielded more, but a large outlay has been required to produce them, so that the net profit has not usually been larger, acre for acre. The instances where a thousand dollars per acre were received on strawberries the very last year are numerous, and we know it is not an uncommon figure. This implies thorough cultivation, of course, and the cost of land, cultivation, picking and marketing should be set down at from $250 to $500 an acre; but that leaves a reasonable margin for profit.

We see no reason why this return may not be relied upon for years to come. The market will never be overstocked. The demand increases faster than the supply, and it will continue to increase faster. True, many enter upon strawberry culture, as upon the culture of other small fruits, but so few have any idea of what good cultivation means, that they meet only with partial success and abandon it in disgust before they have given it a fair trial.

It is probable that several of the small fruits could be raised on the same place to greater advantage than any one of them alone. A part of the original cost, for boxes, &c., is the same, and a system once adopted by which one variety would succeed another, it could be easily kept up, and thus a regular business be established.

We do not advise our readers to go into this or any other line of cultivation without counting the cost.—No one should think of it unless he is prepared to pay that attention to the details of cultivation, which will secure and command success. It does not admit of any slipshod course of management. It requires a live man to cultivate anything well, and especially to get along well in the cultivation of small fruits. It is not a machine that will run itself. But one thing any farmer can do, and that is to cultivate a small patch in the corner of his garden without feeling it as any extra burden, and in doing this he will be gaining knowledge and experience, which, if he sees fit, he can carry out on a larger scale as occasion offers.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

Topping Corn.

While we have no doubt that the corn is injured by this practice, we do not hesitate to recommend it. We lose something in the weight of kernel, but gain in the fodder; and materially in managing the future harvest; it is worth while, perhaps, to go a little more particularly into the matter.

The leaves of plants perform two important functions: evaporation, which principally is effected by the lower surface, and by which the water that has been absorbed by the roots and absorbent vessels is carried off in part, leaving the residue in the form of concentrated juices; and, second, respiration, by which carbonic acid is taken into the circulation of the plant and performs an important part in the conversion of the proper juices, and in preparing and maturing those elements which constitute the nutritious quality of the fruit. This process must of course cease when the parts which perform the office are destroyed. It would seem that such must be the effect produced by topping corn; and though the proper process may still go on by means of the few leaves that are left below the topping, yet it will be feeble and partial, the corn will ripen by evaporation merely; or rather, both evaporation and the respiration will be diminished, to the consequent injury of the grain, which will have less of the nutritious property, and less weight; will be more liable to ferment, and to lose more in weight by the end of winter. By the process named, the proper secretions of the plant are in ripening rapidly converted into sugar; and so far as the topping checks the respiration, it would also diminish the saccharine quality and render the corn less agreeable to the taste, as well as less nutritious. But after having tried both ways, we incline to the opinion that the loss is less to top it, than to suffer the top to stand, and dry up, and realize the inconvenience in harvesting.—*N. E. Farmer.*

Pruning Dwarf Pears.

At a late meeting of horticulturists at Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. Elliott said that the public generally wanted tall, straight trees, and in conformity to this, the nurserymen had got to trimming up the stems, leaving a few lateral branches so as to form a little top. And again, they grow them so thick in the rows that they had but little chance to form that bushy head which was desirable. However, taking the tree as it came from the nursery, getting thrifty one year old trees, if possible, he would cut back severely—that is, cut back all the laterals to one or two buds, and cut the top down enough to make the dormant buds in the stem near the ground, start; this would leave nearly a naked stem about two feet high. The first year, he would do no more to it; the second spring he would cut back the last year's growth to two or three buds, leaving the tree in a round, bushy shape, getting the head as low and near the ground as possible. This process of spring pruning was to be continued until the head was formed, with perhaps some exceptions, to wit, as one of them, if a tree grow very strong, as was sometimes the case, throwing up shoots four, six or seven feet long, he would leave them until about the 20th of July, and then cut away about two-thirds of the previous year's growth. The reason for this is, that if cut in the spring, the vigor of the tree would cause a new growth of strong, thrifty shoots; while, if left until the 20th of July, the growth would be checked, and the formation of fruit spurs induced. For the same reason, he would do much of his pruning by pinching in the ends of the limbs.

Farmers, Come Out!

To break through the partition-walls of distance and time, which have so long sparated agricultrists, is the knotty problem which the Society Fairs of modern days are exactly adapted to the solution of. Farmers stay too much on their own lands, after their tasks are wrought out. They are too much like Crusoes on their separate islands. They want some genial occasion to look forward to, that shall quicken their spirits by stimulating their hopes; and to meet socially with their bretheren from the same County, and State, and from neighboring States, is one of the very best preventives to rusting and fusting that could be devised. Men in other occupations think it necessary to assemble with more or less regularity, to advance the interests of their guild; and inasmuch as the pursuit of farming takes men off by themselves, into the solitudes of fields and woods, perhaps more than any other would, it is all the more essential that this isolation should be statedly broken up by such gatherings as local fairs are likely to collect.

The Autumn is the fittest of all times for these gatherings. Then the harvest is all in. The promises of the year have ripened in fulfillment. The airs are cool and bracing, and the spirits are high, and there is a general feeling of satisfaction at what has been done. There is no pleasanter sight than a collection of farmers at that season. The entire community takes a deeper interest in it than in any other general gathering, because it forms a sort of exhibition of genuine home-life in the country—the pleasantest of all lives in the human contemplation—and because people more and more realize how dependent the whole structure, support and movement of social life is upon agriculture. It speaks everything for the moral health of a great public, that feels a like interest in the details and shows of a farming-life with those who follow it themselves.

In England, local fairs statedly occur, at which the farmers make trade and barter of what they have to part with, whether much or little. In New England, although the farms are small and the villages and towns comparatively close together, it has not yet been found necessary to test by adoption the value of this old-world custom. Our season requires the closest attention from the husbandman while it is passing, and it is not until it is fairly over that he can go from his teeming acres to meet with his bretheren from other townships, counties, and States.

Modern invention has almost revolutionized the methods of farming, in one sense. It has, therefore, compelled agriculturists to come out from their seclusion and see what all this stir of life about them means. They can no longer live as they once did. This is a commercial age, and it reaches them by the influence of its markets. They must, therefore, put themselves in relation with the active spirit of the age. If they go to the Fairs, they see what has been done for their advantage and advancement. There they find the improved machinery, the most generous poducts, healthy rivalry, and an admiring public to stimulate and encourage them.—*Massachusetts Ploughman.*

Late vs. Early Sown Wheat

For the past four or five years, almost almost all winter wheat in the Northern States has been more or less injured by an insect variously denominated Hessian fly, chinch bug, &c. In some localities, the crop taken together, being less by one half—some particular pieces not yielding five bushels to the acre, which, had it not been for the fly, would have produced twenty—while in other instances the crop was entirely destroyed. In Michigan, last winter, I saw several fields sown to wheat last fall, which had been entirely destroyed by the pest, and plowed under—the fly commencing upon it as soon as it had nicely got to growing, and eating it out so as to leave the ground entirely bare. One would suppose that an insect so destructive in its nature, and doing as much damage as this has done, would be more widely noticed in our agricultural papers, and a remedy sought for—for there is a remedy by which these injuries can be entirely avaided, which is simply by late sowing. I have seen fields of wheat injured at least two-thirds by the fly, while an adjoining one gave a maximum crop, with not a trace of the fly to be seen—the first sown early, in latter part of August or first of September, the latter not before the 15th or 20th of September—while wheat sown even as late as October last season, is giving a good yield. The Hessian fly has not done much injury here this season. Last season and the one previous, they hurt us badly. By sowing late a chance is given to top-dress fields to be sown with wheat. This is practiced now in this locality almost universally, our sweeping winds and bleak cold winters rendering it necessary.—E. A. King, *in Country Gentleman.*

Putting up Wheat.

I believe it is a conceded fact that wheat, before it is perfectly ripe, gives more and a better quality of flour: still the yield is owing greatly to the manner in which the grain is cured, after being cut. Every one knows that grain of any kind, cut in a greenish state, and allowed to remain in swath to cure, will cause the grain to shrink and be of an inferior quality; while if bound almost immediately, or before it gets dry, and put up in round shocks and capped, the grain will receive the juices remaining in the green straw, and become round and plump. To prove the benefit derived from keeping the heads of grain from being exposed to the air, let any one who has practiced round shocking examine the heads of the top cap sheaf—he will find the berries much less plump and heavy than those taken from underneath. Where wheat is struck with rust, early cutting, immediate binding and round shocking will often save the crop, when if put up in long shocks, as many farmers do, the damage would be great. This is especially the case with spring wheat, as this variety is with us more apt to rust than the winter variety, as the time of ripening usually comes later, when there is a greater amount of warmth and moisture, which is no doubt the cause of the grain rusting. To prove this, wheat, oats or barley, sown on our hilly lake land, where the drainage is quick and immediate, we never see rust.—*Corr. Co. Gent.*

Management of Sick Animals.

A correspondent of the Germantown *Telegraph* is of the opinion that more farm stock is lost or injured by hasty and ill-advised attempts to counteract real or supposed ailments, than by a failure to administer anything for the purpose of cure. He says: When your animal has a fever all stimulating articles are to be avoided. Bleeding to reduce the circulation; purging for removing irritating substances from the bowels; cooling drinks to allay thirst and supply decreased secretions; rest and quiet to tone down the system, are what common sense would seem to dictate, and what nature would seem to require. This is safer than to cram the animal with a multiplicity of cures, without regard to anything except the fact that something is the matter. We trust farmers and owners of animals will heed the admonition here given.

Preserving Seed Corn.

As the season is near at hand for farmers to lay away their seed corn, we give the following suggestions from an old farmer in Wisconsin:—As soon as the largest ears become hardened or glazed, though the stalk may be quite green and the husk on the ear somewhat green, select the largest and ripest ears, and on the same day divest the corn of all the husk, save as much as will suspend it. Braid the ears in bunches of ten or twelve and suspend them in some dry place, or if the atmosphere be damp, hang the bunches around the wall of the kitchen for three or four weeks at least. It may hang either in the kitchen or any dry, airy place, where neither damp nor rain will get to it, until planting time. All such seed will grow in any land not flooded with water.—*Prairie Farmer.*

☞The Cary Brothers of Houlton will raise 1000 bushels of fine wheat this season, and other crops, save corn, in proportion. They sow their wheat annually while the snow is yet on the ground, in order that it may have the advantage of the early spring, and get out of the way of the midge. This method was adopted by their father, the late Hon. Shepard Cary, who once remarked to us that for thirty years he had not failed to raise a good crop of wheat. He was a very successful farmer.—*Aroostook Pioneer.*

Advantage of Sheltering Cattle. From the experience of an English farmer, it has been demonstrated that sheltered sheep eat one-third less of linseed cake, and two pounds less of turnips per day. And yet, notwithstanding this, the increase of those housed, as compared with those that were not, was as fourteen to nine. An equal, if not greater advantage, is derived by sheltering cattle.

☞The blueberry crop of Maine this year is estimated at about half a million quarts, and the marketed berry crop of the State from wild vines will put at least $100,000 in the pockets of Maine people.—Shippers and dealers will realize about an equal sum.

The Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Thursday, Aug. 29, 1867.

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COLLECTOR'S NOTICE.

Mr. V. Darling is now engaged in canvassing the county of Penobscot, for the Maine Farmer.

Mr. Jas. Sturgis will visit our subscribers in Lincoln County during the month of August.

Natural Protection of Animals.

In a recent number of the Westminster Review is a curious article entitled mimicry, and other protective resemblances among animals. While we cannot at all agree with the author that his arguments are a proof in confirmation of Darwin's Natural Selection, and think that he has made a feeble case of it, yet his facts are very valuable, and it is these that we shall chiefly notice. He commences with the idea proposed by Darwin, but which has long been recognized, that none of the definite facts of organic nature, no special organ, no characteristic form or marking, no peculiarities of interest or of habit, no relations between species or between groups of species can exist, but which must now be or once have been *useful* to the individuals or the races which possess them.

Concealment is necessary to most animals. Hence many animals have the same colored tints as the position in which they are placed. Lions are sandy colored and crouch among stones and in the sand to await the approach of their prey unobserved. So with the antelope, the camel, the Egyptian and Pampas cat and the kangaroo. The horse is supposed to have been originally of a sandy or clay color.

The same remarks hold true of the desert birds. The larks, the quails, the grouse and other similar birds which have no means of defence, conceal themselves among the underbush by means of their dull plumage. It is said that all birds, smaller animals, snakes and lizards in Northern Africa have the upper parts of the body of a sandy color.

On the other hand we have a striking case of adaptation in the prevailing white colors of birds and animals in the arctic regions. Here it is uniformly white to correspond with the snow. In summer these animals, with the exception of the white bear, which always lives amid snow and ice, changes to a brown color, the better to escape detection. This fact to our mind is a fatal one to the principle advanced that one species may be deduced from another. It only shows the power of adaptation specially provided by the Creator, and we can see no greater difficulty in the creation of a distinct species by a special act of a Superior Power, than in changing the physical structure of animals from one season to another to adapt them to their condition. Such animals as are provided with means of defence do not change their color in winter, as the sable and woodchuck, the one living among the trees, and the other burrowing in the ground. We are not aware, however, as stated by this writer, that the woodchuck of Canada frequents river banks, catching fish and small animals that live near the water. If he refers to the common woodchuck of New England (*Arctorays monax*) we think he is entirely mistaken.

Nocturnal animals are usually of a dark hue, such as mice, rats, bats and moles by which they are protected from their enemies while in search of food, while on the other hand, owls and goat suckers are in this climate of a dark color so as to remain unobserved during the day. Where vegetation is of a perpetual green, as in the tropics, we find the birds of the same color. Among those most familiar to us are the parrots. These and other tropical birds are thus enabled to conceal themselves among the branches covered with green foliage.

Cases of special adaptation seem to be shown in the tiger, the jaguar, and other large cats, which have vertical stripes on their skins. The position of these animals is such that they hide themselves among the perpendicular tufts of grass and bamboos, and thus their stripes correspond in general appearance with the vegetation with which they are surrounded. The puma of South America has an ashy brown hue and has the habit of clinging to the limb of a tree so that it resembles it in color.

The lizards of the tropics, like the birds, are green; while the frog which lives among the grasses is green, those which live among the dark mosses and rocks and walls are of a dark color. Who has not followed the piping of a treetoad, and at last after patient search found him clinging to the bark of a tree, but so nearly resembling it in color as to come near overlooking it? Most of the tropical snakes are of a green color, which enables them to twist among the branches and there remain concealed while in search of prey.

Fishes present the same examples of adaptation. Flounders which live on the bottom of the sea are of the same color as the sand on which they rest. The sea horses of Australia have large poliaceous appendages which cause them to resemble the seaweeds among which they dwell. But the most striking cases of this law of adaptation, for such we would call it, is to be found in insects. Those insects which are of a sluggish motion, and which have no special means of defence, are uniformly of a dull and brownish color. They cling to any object and resemble the object itself. Insects of a green color inhabit green spots. Ash-colored insects may be seen in our footpaths. The butterfly always rests with his wings closed so as to conceal the brilliant hues of the upper surface, while the reverse is generally true of night moths.

Such are some of the interesting facts to be found in the history of animals. They lead us to see the evidences of manifest design in the history of the globe. While we have no convincing facts that there have been anything more than mere modifying circumstances to change the character or the habits of animals and these only when taken advantage of by man in breeding in a certain direction, we are led to apply the more easily the great law that Nature repeats herself only with a difference. We suppose the striped squirrel that existed in a state of nature five thousand years ago had the same stripes and the same habits as the squirrel of to-day. The beetle embalmed in the mummies of Egypt thousands of years ago had the same joints and the same colors as the same species have now, while the mummey itself has not changed the character or composition of its bones, muscles or nerves from that time to the present, except such modifications as pertain to everything else on earth.

If a breed of cattle is propagated by special attention they may be continued a distinct variety so long as they receive special attention, but neglect them and they revert back to their original stock. Nature's laws are fixed. The law of gravity causes bodies to fall towards the centre of the earth. We may swing a pendulum to one side and thus apparently controvert this law, but let the pendulum swing back and it only proves the truth of the law in a striking manner. So with the animal and vegetable kingdom. It is doubtful if a single plant or animal introduced into America from Europe would long continue, should man remove from the continent. The horse may seem to be an exception, as he runs wild and propagates in the wilds of America. But it must be borne in mind that the horse exists in a fossil state in America, and that he existed here long before it was discovered by Columbus, but had perished, so that America may be regarded as the natural home of the horse.

It would be exceedingly interesting to trace out still farther these laws by which the vegetable and animal kingdom are created and governed, but we have said enough we trust, to lead the contemplative mind to examine more fully for itself these great principles which underlie the construction of this world.

☞ On Thursday last, David Barker, Esq., repeated at Bangor for the benefit of the sufferers by the late fire in that city, his poem entitled "The First Courtship," which was so well received at the recent Editors' and Publishers' Convention.

☞ Work upon digging out the channel of the river between this city and Hallowell, has been commenced under an appropriation of Congress for that purpose.

The Transfer of District Commanders. The following order, removing Gen. Sheridan from the command of the 5th Military District and appointing Gen. H. Thomas in his place, was promulgated on Tuesday last:

"Executive Mansion,
Washington, D. C., Aug. 17, 1867.

Major General George H. Thomas is hereby assigned to the command of the Fifth Military District, created by the act of Congress, passed on the 2d day of March, 1867. Major General P. H. Sheridan is hereby assigned to the command of the Department of the Missouri. Major General Winfield S. Hancock is hereby assigned to the command of the Department of the Cumberland. The Secretary of War *ad interim* will give the necessary instructions to carry this order into effect.

(Signed) Andrew Johnson."

Second. In pursuance of the foregoing order of the President of the United States, Major General G. H. Thomas will, on the receipt of this order, turn over his present command to the officer next in rank to himself, and proceed to New Orleans, La., to relieve Major General P. H. Sheridan of the command of the 5th military district.

Third. Major General P. H. Sheridan, on being relieved from the command of the 5th military district by Major General G. H. Thomas, will proceed to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and will relieve Major General W. S. Hancock in the command of the Department of the Missouri.

Fourth. Major General W. S. Hancock, on being relieved from the command of the Department of the Missouri by Major General P. H. Sheridan, will proceed to Louisville, Ky., and will assume command of the Department of the Cumberland.

Fifth. Major General G. H. Thomas will continue to execute all orders which may be in force in the 5th military district at the time of his assuming command of it, unless authorized by the general of the army to annul, alter or modify them.

Sixth. Major General Sheridan, before relieving Major General Hancock, will report in person at these headquarters.

E. D. Townsend, Assistant Adjutant General.

The fact that the order for the displacement of Gen. Sheridan is signed by the President, and that among the instructions to Gen. Thomas he is peremptorily directed to carry out all the orders of his predecessor, are sufficient indications that Gen. Grant endorses the official course of Gen. Sheridan and that the policy hitherto pursued by him in the enforcement of the reconstruction act will be continued under the administration of Gen. Thomas. It is stated that Gen. Grant on receiving the above order, went immediately to the White House and earnestly urged the President to withhold it. The President emphatically refused, and insisted upon the enforcement of the order. Subsequently a correspondence passed between General Grant and the President, which was, on the part of Gen. Grant, a protest against the contemplated removal of Gen. Sheridan, but without avail.

With regard to Gen. Thomas' views of the reconstruction act, the Washington correspondent of the New York *Times* says it is known that the President has at different times during the past six months, urged upon him the propriety of taking command of the 5th military district. He had previously declined the command of the 3d district; and he met the President's propositions in this case with an equally earnest declaration that he felt himself unfitted for the administration of such military and political trusts—at the same time expressing a hope that Gen. Sheridan would be allowed to continue the work he had begun with so much vigor; "For," said he, "so far as the interpretation of the acts of Congress are concerned, there is really little difference between Sheridan and myself."

A dispatch from Washington dated Saturday, the 24th inst., states that the President, on the recommendation of Gen. Grant, has suspended the execution of the order assigning Gen. Thomas to the command of the 5th District. This action is on account of the ill health of Gen. Thomas, who is now undergoing medical treatment at one of the Springs in West Virginia.

Camp Meeting. The denomination known as Second Adventists or Seventh Day Baptists are holding a general camp meeting, (comprising delegations from all the societies of this order throughout the State,) on what is known as Oak Hill in the north part of this city, the site being the highest point of land anywhere in this vicinity. It commenced on Monday evening of the present week, and will continue—there being three services a day—until Monday of next week, Sept. 2d. Preachers are present from different parts of this State, and on Wednesday, the "great tent" of the Rhode Island Adventists, capable of covering from 1500 to 2000 persons, is expected, together with noted speakers from that State. Rev. Wm. N. Pyle and Rev. Mr. Brewer, both of New Jersey, the former, as we are informed, the "smartest man on the continent," are to be present the latter part of this week. The meeting will doubtless be productive of good to the denomination; at any rate they will have the inspiration of pure air, and one of the most extensive and delightful views in the world.

Fire. The alarm of fire in this city at half past eleven o'clock on Sunday night last, was caused by the burning of a cooper's shop in connection with the lumber yard of Lancey & Smith; on the east side of the river. It is supposed to have been set by persons who were seen in the vicinity half an hour before the alarm was given. The fire department was promptly on the spot, and the flames prevented from communicating with the immense piles of lumber and other buildings in the neighborhood. There was $500 worth of stock destroyed and workmen lost tools to the value of $200. No insurance.

Accidental Death. A young man named George Ingraham, aged about twenty-six years of age, residing on the Hallowell road below the State House, was run over and probably instantly killed, by the night train from Portland, just south of the railroad machine shop in this city, on Saturday night last. The deceased was in this city during the afternoon of Saturday, and in the evening was seen to turn from Water street upon the railroad track on his way home. The train mangled his body in a most shocking manner, severing both legs, and his remains were not discovered until the next morning.

Excursion to Fort Popham. In order to accommodate those who wish to attend the Historical Celebration at Fort Popham on Thursday of this week, 29th inst., the P. & K. Railroad will run an extra train to Bath, which will leave this city at 6.45 A. M., stopping at all intervening stations, and arriving at Bath at 8.30, where boats will be in readiness to carry passengers to the Fort. Returning the train will leave Bath at 6.30 P. M. One fare for the round trip.

Base Ball. The third contest for the silver ball, the symbol of the championship of the State, will take place in Portland on Saturday afternoon next, between the Cushnocs of this city, and the Eons, the former club being the challenging party.

A match game was played at Gardiner on the 17th inst. between the Dirigos of Augusta and the Oaklands of Gardiner, both junior clubs. The Dirigos won the game by a score of 61 to 14.

Church Repairs. The Methodist Society in this city having decided to make some much needed repairs upon their house of worship on Green street,—work upon the same will be commenced at once. We learn that the house is to be enlarged, a steeple erected, the interior finished so as to admit an organ, and to be painted in fresco. The Society also design to purchase an organ. The entire improvements will cost between five and six thousand dollars.

The State Horse Fair. We learn that a large number of entries are making for the Horse Show, to come off in this city on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next. Among the horses already entered in the several classes, are "Little Fred," "Gladiator" and "Dashaway" owned in Maine, and John Ferris, Lexington and Sweetbrier from Boston.

Accident. On Saturday of last week, a little son of Mr. Chas. Kincaid, was engaged at play on the wharf at the steam saw mill on the east side, when he accidentally fell therefrom down the side, a distance of nearly eighteen feet, breaking his arm in two places and dislocating three ribs. He is now comfortable.

Religious. The next session of the Kennebec Baptist Association, will take place in Sidney, commencing on Tuesday of next week, Sept. 3d. The Annual Sermon will be preached by Rev. Arthur Drinkwater of Waterville. Rev. A. Wilson, D. D., will preach the doctrinal sermon.

☞ We learn from the *Star*, that Mr. Edward Stanwood, who for several years has been connected with the *Kennebec Journal* in this city, has accepted a position upon the editorial staff of the Boston *Advertiser*, and will enter upon his duties immediately.

Third District Income Tax--1866.

We are enabled, by the politeness of P. F. Sanborn, Esq., Collector of Internal Revenue for this District, to lay before our readers this week, the Income Tax list for the District, comprising the counties of Kennebec, Somerset and Lincoln for the year 1866. It embraces all persons who have returned an income exceeding $1,000 for the year, and the sums set against their names represent an assessment of five per cent. upon the amount returned above that sum. It is proper to remark that the statement does not in all cases show the full income of the individual assessed, nor the amount which he pays to the Government, inasmuch as the tax on bank shares, manufacturing and railroad stock and bonds is paid annually by those corporations and deducted from the dividends. The tax on the salaries of Government officers is also deducted in the settlement of their accounts, and therefore does not appear in the list.

The falling off observable in the number of tax-payers in the District, as well as in the amount of revenue derived from the tax, is attributable to the general depression of business in the country, and not to any special local causes. The number of income tax-payers in the District is as follows:—Kennebec, 190; Somerset, 31; Lincoln, 44. Total, 265. The aggregate amount assessed upon these persons is $16,211.45. Kennebec pays $12,834.70; Somerset $1,785.95; Lincoln $1,519.80. In 1865 the number of tax payers in the District was 491, and the amount assessed $29,740.44, showing a falling off in the income of 1866 as compared with the previous year of nearly 45 per cent. The number of tax payers in Augusta for 1866 was 76 against 104 for 1865, and the tax paid by them was $3,693.80 against $5,636.10 the previous year. The heaviest tax payer in this city is Allen Lambard who pays $521.15. The heaviest tax payers in the District are Alden Sampson of Manchester, oil-cloth manufacturer, and Frances G. Richards of Gardiner, paper maker, who pay respectively a tax of $1,125 and $750. It will be seen that the income of some of the heaviest tax payers have been greatly reduced. Chas. M. Bailey of Winthrop, who in 1865 paid the heaviest tax in the District, amounting to $2,462.50, in 1866 pays only $539.60; and John Ware of Athens who paid $1,398.25 in 1865, now pays $99.50. In the case of the latter gentleman, however, it is to be stated that his heaviest income is largely derivable from railroad stocks and bonds, the tax upon which is deducted from his dividends and paid directly to the Government:

Kennebec County.

Darius Alden, Augusta,	$79 55	Geo N Johnson, Gardiner,	20 00
Cyrus Briggs, "	73 65	Maria J Kipp, "	11 05
Wm S Badger, "	155 00	S N Maxcey, "	20 00
Jos Barton, "	18 90	Josiah Maxcey, Trustee	
Jas B Bell, "	7 55	Est. of R H Gardiner,	28 90
Jas W Bradbury, "	20 10	H K Morrill, Gardiner,	25 00
Geo E Brickett, "	16 95	N O Mitchell, "	150 00
Jas Bridge, "	105 00	J T Moore, "	10 00
Israel T Boothby, "	20 45	S G Moore, "	5 00
S S Brooks, "	20 55	B A Neal, "	37 50
Wm Caldwell, "	103 00	Jos Perry, "	60 00
J W Clapp, "	15 10	Robt Richardson, "	15 25
John S Cushing, "	28 90	Frank G Richards, "	750 00
Samuel Cony, "	86 95	John T Richards, "	91 35
John Colburn, "	10 00	Wm F Richards, "	48 10
J H Cochran, "	8 45	I G Vannah, "	16 65
John Dorr, "	50 30	Steph Whitmore, "	32 25
Geo W Dorr, "	23 70	N M Whitmore, "	100 00
Stephen Deering, "	55 25	Philip Winslow, "	15 00
J J Eveleth, "	21 80	John S Wilson, "	98 05
Henry L Fuller, "	29 05	Chas A White, "	14 25
Edward Fenno, "	37 60	Jas D White, "	20 75
M P Faught, "	10 00	Geo W Wilcox, "	7 50
L B Fowler, "	17 40	Steph Young, "	181 45
H H Hill, "	45 70	A C Stilphen, Farm'gdale,	17 90
John L Hodsdon, "	105 00	H C Cheeseman, "	50 00
Oscar Holway, "	34 75	A Sampson, Manches'r,	1,125 00
Joseph A Homan, "	169 45	H K Baker, Hallowell,	31 75
John H Hartford, "	16 15	Mary Cleaves, "	84 60
Fred Hamlen, "	17 40	Charles Dummer, "	29 40
C H Hamlen, "	4 70	James H Leigh, "	6 75
Walter Hatch, "	38 00	Ambrose Merrill, "	247 50
B H Hinds, "	4 15	Simon Page, "	250 50
H M Harlow, "	33 50	William Stickney, "	200 00
L W Lithgow, "	12 60	Geo Sampson, "	450 00
Thomas Little, "	4 85	J DeWolfe Smith, "	9 40
Thos Lambard, "	160 50	J DeWolfe Smith,	
Allen Lambard, "	521 15	Trustee, "	5 85
Artemas Libbey, "	50 35	L L Shaw, "	33 55
J H Manley, "	49 45	Justin E Smith, "	60 00
C R Moor, "	44 45	R Bodwell, "	178 50
Jas W North, "	28 20	P C Bradford, Winthrop,	25 00
H S Osgood, "	11 80	C M Bailey, "	539 60
Daniel Pike, "	37 70	Moses Bailey, "	200 00
J D Pierce, "	55 15	R T Jones, "	25 00
Benj F Parrott, "	27 25	Levi Jones, "	25 00
Geo W Quinby, "	88 25	John P Putnam, "	40 00
Lot M Morrill, "	18 00	Luther Whitman, "	9 50
Hiram Reed, "	5 35	H Johnson, Wayne,	200 00
J A Richards, "	15 50	M S Mayhew, Mt. Vernon,	30 00
R D Rice, "	46 70	A P Cram, "	5 00
H Eugene Smith, "	7 50	M J Metcalf, Monmouth,	52 25
Moses M Swan, "	22 65	J R Bachelder, Readfield,	40 00
Wm R Smith, "	14 30	David Brown, "	7 85
Henry R Smith, "	13 15	A P Morrill, "	60 55
Edward Stanwood, "	11 40	P F Sanborn, "	30 00
John L Stevens, "	88 30	J A Sanborn, "	62 85
John S Sayward, "	88 95	C Osborne, Vassalboro',	47 05
Issacher Snell, "	14 00	Ira D Sturgis, "	334 00
E H W Smith, "	36 55	Geo Wilkins, "	107 15
Daniel Stone, "	145 60	H R Butterfield, "	86 75
Geo W Stanley, "	86 00	S Appleton, Waterville,	92 35
H M Scruton, "	8 40	N R Boutelle, "	36 35
W M Stratton, "	16 60	C M Barrell, "	60 75
Paul Merrill, "	12 50	E Blumenthal, "	21 80
John McArthur, "	26 00	J T Champlin, "	38 70
V D Pinkham, "	25 00	H H Campbell, "	11 75
A T Thompson, "	7 45	Wm Dyer, "	21 20
W M Thayer, "	8 50	E R Drummond, "	25 00
G C Vose, "	15 80	R B Dunn, "	82 50
W L Thompson, "	27 75	J B Foster, "	16 80
Daniel Williams, "	51 45	E L Getchell, "	3 20
J H Williams, "	65 35	J P Gray, "	13 40
J H Williams Trustee		C F Hathaway, "	100 00
Est. of R Williams,	104 65	J H Hanson, "	42 40
D Woodward, Augusta,	10 55	F P Hairland, "	22 10
J P Wyman, "	115 00	C E Hamlen, "	6 70
Jos Adams, Gardiner,	18 20	Wm Jordan, "	7 30
P G Bradstreet, "	60 00	G W Keeley, "	14 15
Wm W Bradstreet, "	60 00	Edw C Lowe, "	15 00
A Bailey, "	24 35	Moses Lyford, "	40 85
Arthur Berry, "	75 00	D L Milliken, "	115 00
Wm Bradstreet, "	220 00	E G Meader, "	15 00
Sifamai Bowman, "	45 00	Edwin Noyes, "	136 20
Jos Bradstreet, "	46 90	Joshua Nye, "	90 75
John C Bartlett, "	27 50	Mary J Plaisted, "	94 70
Lorenzo Clay, "	30 70	Jacob Peavey, "	26 40
Chas Danforth "	48 30	N G H Pulsifer, "	22 50
David Dennis, "	27 50	J W Philbrick, "	28 85
Joshua Gray, "	250 00	W A F Stevens, "	15 00
David Gray, "	25 00	Sam'l K Smith, "	7 65
R H Gardiner, "	170 65	S H Willard, "	1 45
P O Holmes, "	53 90	D R Wing, "	4 35
G M Holmes, "	18 15	John Webber, "	44 85
H B Hoskins, "	39 95	E F Webb, "	10 90
H W Jewett, "	75 00		
Benj Johnson, "	25 00		$12,834 70

Somerset County.

A Coburn, Skowhegan,	457 90	A H Barton, Benton,	21 80
Philander Coburn, "	457 90	A Crosby, "	17 25
T H Dinsmore, "	21 25	Wm Connor, Fairfield,	24 25
A M Lyon, "	25 00	Ezra Totman, "	14 30
R E Lyon, "	29 30	Nahum Totman, "	12 05
C F W Lellan, "	16 30	David Wing, "	50 00
Wm Parker, "	95 60	Silas Bates, "	50 00
M W Turner, "	10 00	Sam'l Gibson, "	20 50
H K White, "	10 00	G H Newhall, "	18 25
Levi W Weston, "	10 00	B Tappan, Norridgewock,	5 85
Eben H Neil, "	7 75	J Billings, Hartland,	35 00
Wm Rowell, "	7 85	Arch Linn, "	37 60
Geo Wentworth, "	11 35	D D Stewart, St Albans,	86 80
Frank R Webber, "	37 50	G Hathorn, Pittsfield,	70 00
A W Wildes, "	10 95		
Wm Tibbetts, Solon,	15 20		
John Ware, Athens,	99 50		$1,785 95

Lincoln County.

Jos Day, Damariscotta,	25 05	I R Greenough, Newcastle,	40 00
D W Chapman, "	15 65	Austin Hall, "	13 10
Jos Day, Adm of Est of J		Alvan Hussey, "	39 25
Chase,	100 00	Abner Robinson, "	25 00
Robt Dixon, Damariscotta,	6 00	J M Carleton, Whitefield,	10 00
Wm K Hilton, "	10 05	J K Clark, Wiscasset,	25 00
Joel Huston, "	10 75	C R Hayden, "	5 55
Wm Hitchcock, "	51 55	Wales Hubbard, "	7 50
Dan'l Hutchins, "	35 00	Isaac T H bson, "	120 00
Thos J Merrill, "	33 45	Henry Ingalls, "	82 50
Austin Miller, "	50 00	Alfred Lennox, "	13 50
Elbridge Norris, "	19 30	W P Lennox, Adm'r	
Jos H Stetson, "	99 95	Est of P Lennox,	26 65
E W Stetson, "	100 00	G B Sawyer, "	40 30
Abner Stetson, "	65 55	Richard H Tucker, "	33 95
G M Thurlow, "	14 10	Dwight Tinkham, "	20 00
Jas M Tukey, "	20 00	John Chase, Edgecomb,	5 75
Thad Weeks, "	5 65	Enoch Chase, "	45 00
T J Woodward, "	35 00	Fessenden Chase, "	12 50
H H Lowell, Waldoboro',	10 00	Elbridge Huff, "	176 85
J H Converse, Newcastle,	16 65	Sam'l J Sewall, "	25 00
F L Carney, "	7 20	S G Hodgdon, Boothbay,	11 25
Edwin Frye, "	60 00		
Isaac Genthner, "	21 25		$1,519 80

The Crops. The late wet weather has caused considerable damage to grain crops throughout the State, causing rust; and we also learn that in some localities the potato vines already begin to show its bad effects—of course, the amount of damage can only be ascertained after the crop have been secured. Last year, notwithstanding the tops rusted badly, a heavy crop of tubers was obtained, and we trust the same will be the case this year. The fruit crop, which in the spring looked very promising, will be one of the lightest raised in Maine for some years. The yield of hay was heavy, but the wet weather during the last half of the haying season caused much of it to be secured in poor order.

☞ We are requested to say, for the information of a large class in the community, that all invalid pensioners whose pensions commenced prior to March 4, 1867, except those whose pension certificates expressly say "biennial examination not required," will require to be examined by one of the Surgeons regularly appointed by the Commissioner of Pensions to make examinations, on or after Sept. 4, and before being paid the September instalment of U. S. pension.

This is required by the second section of the law of Congress enacted March 3d, 1859.

☞ We learn that Hon. Jas. G. Blaine has completed his European tour and taken passage in the steamer Persia, which left Liverpool on Saturday last. He has been absent about three months.

☞ The Unitarian Church in this city will be re-opened for worship on the next Sunday, Sept. 1st. Rev. S. C. Beach will commence an engagement for one year.

☞ We would call attention to the advertisement of the Portland Business College found in another column.

Togus Military Asylum. The Kennebec *Journal* of last week contains an extended account of a visit to the U. S. Military Asylum at Togus Springs by one of the editors of that paper. The interest which is widely felt in the practical working of such an institution, and a personal knowledge of the general accuracy and comprehensiveness of the statements contained in the article referred to, will be our apology, if any be needed, for transferring the larger portion of it to our columns:

The asylum was founded under an act of Congress appropriating the fund arising from the fines and forfeitures imposed on volunteer officers and soldiears to the relief of such soldiers who became disabled in the line of duty. These fines and forfeitures embraced the bounty and back pay of deserters, and the fines and stoppages of pay of officers absent without leave or whose accounts had not been properly adjusted. It is very large, but exactly how great no one can tell.

The disbursement of this fund for the object mentioned was put in charge of a board of trustees which included the most eminent military and naval officers, and prominent civilians, distinguished for their philanthropic efforts to ameliorate the condition of our soldiers and sailors. Out of this board of Trustees twelve were chosen and styled the board of managers, which is invested with the whole authority of the Trustees, and whose executive committee of three members has actual and responsible charge of the management of the asylums, which are to be three in number,—the eastern branch at Augusta, the middle at Dayton, Ohio, and the western at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The eastern branch was the first opened and is further advanced than any other. The site was purchased of the heirs of Horace Beals for $50,000. It embraces the estate known as the Togus Mineral Spring. It is situated in the town of Chelsea, and is nearly equi-distant, four or five miles, from Augusta, Hallowell and Gardiner. It includes the fine large summer hotel erected near the spring, and not far from 1000 acres of land. Though the location was well adapted to the purposes of the asylum, yet in the state in which it was purchased it was not fit for the reception of inmates. Up to the present time about $50,000 have been used in improving the place, and the work is by no means completed.

The institution was declared opened in November last and was actually in readiness for the reception of disabled soldiers in January. It was at first under the charge of Gen. E. W. Hinks of Mass., as Commandant, who resigned March first to accept a commission in the regular army. Gen. Everett of Washington was chosen to succeed him. He took charge towards the end of March, the asylum meanwhile having been under the command of Dr. Breed, the surgeon. Gen. Everett resigned June 10th, since which time Major Nathan Cutler has been in charge, having now received an appointment as Commandant. Maj. Cutler has served since the opening of the asylum as Secretary and Treasurer, and still performs the duties of these offices in addition to the general care of the establishment. It is the universal testimony of all that the asylum under his care is better organized than ever before, and more nearly answers the ideas of the managers and the men of what such a home should be.

Mrs. E. A. Russell holds the position of Matron, and is, emphatically, the right person in the right place. During the war she was manager of the New England Rooms in New York, and won the praise of all who met her, by her kind care and attention to the wants of the men. A thorough lady, well educated, perfectly understanding her duties and performing them with enthusiasm, she is a most efficient help—almost an indipensable part of the asylum.

Dr. B. B. Breed, formerly of Lynn, has been Surgeon of the asylum from the first. He stands high in his profession and is a good officer. Rev. John Long, Chaplain, is an Episcopal clergyman formerly of Philadelphia, and is enabled to add much to the comfort, education and spiritual well-being of the men. Capt. E. Hinks is Superintendent of the farm, and A. L. Smith Esq, Clerk to the commandant.

The asylum has been full or nearly so since the latter part of March. The men come from the New England and Middle States. About equal numbers are here from Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania. Few New England soldiers except those from Massachusetts have availed themselves of its benefits. Only six Maine soldiers, we are informed, are cared for here. Naturally, all classes of men are to be found among them. In the main they are contented and happy, appreciate the efforts of the officers to make them comfortable, and cause them but little difficulty. About one-half are employed in various duties about the place, and a larger proportion will be given occupation when the improvements to be mentioned hereafter are completed.

The buildings on the place include the large hotel building, a small house used as a laundry, stable, four barns, two ice houses, and others not now in use but which will be put to use hereafter. The main building contains not only the rooms for the men and officers' quarters, but also the hospital, school-room and library, kitchen, dining-room and store rooms. The rooms are light and airy, several men occupying each.

A bugle gives the signal for the different duties of the day. The men obey the dinner call with singular alacrity and promptitude. We looked in upon them while at dinner and noticed, with admiration, the relish with which they attacked the fare. The water of the mineral spring is used exclusively for cooking and drinking. All the work for the men is done by the inmates, such as cooking, sweeping, bed-making, &c.—A few women are employed by the officers who occupy all but the fourth floor of the wing. Bathing rooms are situated conveniently. The men who do not or cannot work amuse themselves in various ways. Mr. Long, the chaplain, has an advanced class of scholars, some of whom, he informs us, will, if they continue to make as much progress as in the past, be capable of teaching district schools this winter. Mrs. Russell, who has had considerable experience as a teacher in the South, has a class in the more elementary branches, the members of which appear to be interested and desirous of learning. A member of this class is one of five out of all our armies who survived the very dangerous surgical operation of amputation at the hip-joint. We were pleased with the energy and teachableness of these men, who at their age,—could bravely set themselves to work in learning to spell and in acquiring a knowledge of the elementary rules of arithmetic. And they appear to be proud that they are learning something. Playing ball and other games, innocent jokes and useful occupation, employ their time.

Eight men have died since the asylum was opened. Six are buried in a spot chosen by Gen. Everett, which was deemed unsuitable by Maj. Cutler and he has accordingly selected a fine lot of seven acres on the hill to the southwest of the buildings where two are buried and where all future interments will be made.

The ice houses will hold about 95 tons of ice. It is cut on little Togus pond, and the supply is ample to meet all wants.

Some twenty-five or thirty persons are hired upon the place, mostly farmers, carpenters and laundresses. Twelve of these are soldiers and their wives.

The barns and stables will accommodate 23 head of stock and over 100 tons of hay, but the capacity must be enlarged, as about 250 tons of hay were cut on the farm the present year. The barns have all been moved to a spot a few rods southwest of the main building.

The improvements contemplated are quite extensive. The plans formed include the erection of three buildings, a part or all of which will be put up this fall. A hospital building is to be erected on the site of the present bowling alley, which is to be moved. At right angles with this, and parallel to the north face of the main building, a chapel and school house will be put up. A third building in the rear to the west of the hotel will contain the laundry, kitchen and dining rooms, workshops, store rooms and a steam engine. For the construction of these buildings a brick yard has been opened in the southeast corner of the estate where a large number of bricks of excellent quality can be made. Improved machines are in use and 45,000 bricks can be made weekly. All the new buildings will be of brick. By this enlargement the capacity of the asylum will be largely increased. Whereas at present only 250 can be accommodated the new arrangement will give ample room for 550. The measures for the comfort of the men are all taken. Those for more elbow-room will make the institution all that can be desired. Another advantage in the increase of workshop accommodations will be that employment can be given to large numbers of women, so that soldiers' wives can then reside near by, and female influence and society be brought into play. The board of managers are already authorized to grant relief outside the institution, and this is to some extent done.

Plans are under contemplation for greatly improving the farm and increasing its productiveness, but they are not perfected, and will in all probability be like similar private enterprises. It is the purpose to make the farm one for stock and grazing. The asylum already has thirteen cows, and the number is increased as rapidly as it can be done to advantage. The bringing of water from a fine spring on the hill-side is also under consideration.

The supplies are purchased in Augusta and elsewhere. Unexpectedly the farmers in the neighborhood discover that there is a saving to them in finding a market for their produce close to their doors, and that the establishment of the asylum has been no injury to them.

Our general impression of the asylum is, that it is to be a great benefit to all who take advantage of it. The purpose is to make it a *home* with all the comforting, educational, moral and religious influences of a household. Bad men may make a bad use of it, and pervert it into a mere loafing place. Good men may derive much good from it. The officers are hopeful of its future and we see no reason why their expectations should be disappointed. Those whom we saw were cheerful, and the uniform testimony, we learn, is that it compares favorably, to say the least, with other institutions of the kind; under its present management it has vastly improved and is destined to become still better fitted to the purposes for which it was formed.

☞ The Augusta correspondent of the Bangor *Whig* says:—"The number of applications for State pensions is 1064; number of pensions granted is 802; number of applications disallowed, 217. The remaining cases are suspended or waiting proof. Of the pensions granted, eighty have been discontinued on account of the applicants receiving U. S. Pension. The expenditure involved by the pensions granted up to August 3d is $22,000."

Editor's Table.

The September Monthlies. The *Atlantic* (Ticknor & Fields, Boston,) has a valuable historical article entitled "Prophetic Voices about America," which we would be glad to see published in a separate form; an account of a summer vacation among the woods and waters of Canada; A Wife by Wager,—a foreign story not to our taste; two pretty poems; continuation of The Guardian Angel, and other articles of interest. —*Harper's* (Harper & Bros., New York,) opens with a continuation of the amusing doings of the "Dodge Club," followed by the Rob Roy in the Baltic, and the Haunted House at Watertown, all illustrated. There are eighteen articles in the body of the work, and in the "Editor's Chair" will be found some sensible and just criticisms on society topics, applicable to the season.—*The Herald of Health*, (Miller, Wood & Co., New York,) has a table of contents that will interest the lover of physical culture. It is worth the $2 per annum asked for it.—The most noticeable feature of the *Galaxy*, (W. C. & F. P. Church, New York,) is the poem by Walt Whitman, entitled "A Carol of Harvest, for 1867," which, in his erratic and somewhat coarse style celebrates the return of peace to America. The Reminiscences of Dr. Anthon are readable, and the article on Mormonism, from a Mormon stand point, will attract attention.—*The Northern Monthly* (R. M. Dennis & Co., Newark, N. J.,) contains a biographical sketch of Richard Stockton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, but the number is not particularly noticeable.—In *Hours at Home* (E. Scribner & Co., New York,) Dr. Bushnell discourses on the moral uses of physical pain; there are some interesting unpublished letters by the wife of the great Jonathan Edwards, and a readable, though very unsatisfactory essay on Sleep and Death. The work can be commended to the home circle.—The ladies' magazines are so-so. We hope there are very few such "Rural Scenes" as form the subject of *Godey's* opening engraving, while "Divided Attention," a coarse wood cut, is a study in itself and worthy of being done in steel.—*Peterson's* contains many attractions, and the *Lady's Friend* is choice, if not remarkable in its reading matter.—*Arthur's* can always be recommended. All the ladies' magazines are published at Philadelphia, and copies of either of the above are for sale in this city by Pierce Brothers.

The Historical Magazine. The July number of this work, the first of the second volume of the second series, (the twelfth from the commencement,) has just been received and will have special value to Maine readers, on account of the learned article from the pen of Hon. E. E. Bourne, President of our Historical Society, with which it opens, and other matters relating to this State. The magazine is the only one of its kind in the country, and its circulation in this State should be more than double what it is now. We are sorry the present number is disfigured by many typographical errors; and the account of the annual meeting of the Maine Historical Society, held in August, shows that the number was sadly behind time in being issued. Terms $5 per annum. H. B. Dawson, Morrisania, N. Y.

The American Naturalist for September, gives us as an opening article an account of the Geysers of California from the pen of Geo. L. Goodale, M. D., who last year made a thorough examination of the physical aspects of California and the regions west of the Rocky mountains, and who is now pursuing his studies in Europe. It has five other articles, besides the Natural History miscellany and calendar, all of them of interest to students of nature. Published by the Essex Institute, Salem, Mass., at $3.00 per annum.

Good Stories. Under this title Messrs. Ticknor & Fields of Boston, have commenced the publication of short stories selected from American and foreign literature, and issued in a cheap form for rail and steamboat readers. The first part contains four choice stories by DeQuincy, Hawthorne, Winthrop, Spencer and other writers, and is sold, in paper covers, for 50 cents. It may be had in this city at the counter of Pierce Bros., Water street.

Blackwood's Magazine for August. Contents: Brownlows—Part VIII.; The Social Era of George III; Life and Letters of Governor Winthrop; The Easter Trip of Two Ochlophobists; Intemperance and Intolerance; Tevsk; Maximillian; The Cheffonier; The Bill as it is. Republished by the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, No. 140 Fulton street, New York. Terms $4.00 per annum.

Westminster Review. Contents of the July number, issued by the Scott Publishing Company, 140 Fulton street, New York:—Mimicry and other Protective Resemblances in Animals; Lucius Annæus Seneca; The Last Great Monopoly; Lyric Feuds; The Future of Reform; Jamaica; The Religious Side of the Italian Question; Contemporary Literature. Terms $4.00 per annum.

Every Saturday for August 31, contains articles from Chamber's Journal, Macmillan's Magazine, Cassell's Magazine, Belgravia, Once a Week, The Argosy, The London Review, The Cornhill Magazine, and Foreign Notes from English exchanges, embracing a rich variety of entertaining reading. Published weekly by Ticknor & Fields, Boston. Price 10 cents per number.

Somerset County Teachers' Association. The teachers of the common schools in this county have evinced, for several years past, a very laudable desire for their own improvement in their useful work. Ever since the State withdrew its support for County Institutes, they have maintained similar annual gatherings for the continuance of the same purpose. One of these has been lately held, and apparently with good results. At the meeting last August at North Anson, it was the current understanding that the next assemblage of the members should be held at Athens. Accordingly the notice was thus given, and was very favorably received. The time was the 20th inst., and the duration was four days. The number of members in attendance continued on the increase, and in all amounted to a hundred and thirty. The Superintendent of Common Schools in the State, was present through the first three days; as were also Messrs. H. C. Kendall and J. L. Hammett, practical teachers from Boston. All these gentlemen gave lectures on the subjects assigned, at the three sessions of each day and evening, and were listened to with the attentive interest that betokened the earnest desire to learn from the opportunity presented. On the last evening of this portion of the time employed, a lecture was given by Mr. Green, a resident of the village.

On Friday, Messrs. Hurd and McLaughlin, officers of the association, aided in the afternoon by remarks from the Hon. Mr. Dillingham of Waterville, who completed the course with a lecture in the evening.

All these exercises were well attended by the teachers and persons interested in the cause of education, thus compelling many persons to adopt the position of standing after the seats were occupied. Much useful instruction was given, and hearkened to with a most receptive attention. The Cornet Band of the place enlivened the evening sessions with its animating music, and deserve thanks for their readiness to add to the attractiveness of the occasion, which was regarded as crowned with success. The next annual meeting was, by vote, determined to be at Hartland.

Great Pedestrian Match. Edward Payson Weston, who created something of a sensation in 1861 by walking from Boston to Washington against time, averaging 51 miles for ten consecutive days, has been backed to walk from Portland to Chicago, Ill., a distance of 1,200 miles, in twenty-six walking days, for the sum of $10,000 a side. The start from Portland will be made between the 1st and 15th of October. One of the conditions imposed upon him during the match, is to walk 100 miles inside of twenty-four hours, he being privileged to make five trials on such days as he may select, provided he fails in the first attempt.

Cholera in Europe. The Florence correspondent of the London Daily *News* writing on the 3d inst, says:—"From a report on the cholera, lately published, we find that the cases from January to July this year have been as many as 63,876, followed by 32,074 deaths." It is reported that an alarming feature accompanying the epidemic—a moral disease quite as bad as the physical—is a general dread and suspicion of poison. This often defeats all sanitary efforts.

Correction. In our last week's issue the address of Mr. S. J. Austin, who advertised the Triumph Hay Press, was erroneously given as Freeport, Mass. It should have been Freeport, *Maine*, and we will thank any who addressed him at the former, to again write him at the latter place.

The Suppression of Gambling. The vice of gambling prevails so terribly in New York, that a society has been formed in that city for its suppression. It is asserted that faro banks, keno saloons and policy shops exist in the city to the number of over a thousand, supporting a large number of persons in idleness and vice, and causing a great deal of misery and crime. We fear there is ample occasion for a similar work to be done in other places besides New York. If common report speaks truth the practice of gaming in this city, even in the most respectable circles of society, is fearfully on the increase and calls for systematic effort to put an end to it, either by the authorities or by some voluntary organization similar to the one above alluded to. This Society, says the New York *Post*, has entered upon its task with a clear knowledge of the obstacles to be met and overcome, and, if encouraged by the public, cannot fail to do much good. It is proposed to hear and examine the complaints of all persons who may have lost money by gambling; and also of those who are annoyed by having gambling dens in their neighborhood. It is said that twenty or thirty complaints have already been made against gift jewelry establishments, and a hundred and fifty against policy shops. The *Post* remarks:

"One of the primary objects of the society is to rid the public of the policy shops. The principal persons duped by this plan of swindling are the superstitious, who are chiefly found among the poorer classes. At a certain hour of the day these 'shops' are thronged by persons who play numbers, in 'gigs' or 'saddles.' Occasionally the sons of merchants and clerks in banking houses and mercantile establishments are found among the customers. These latter give the capital and custom to these places. The most efficient method of suppression adopted by the society is to arrest every person found in the shops at the time of a descent by the police. The principals are imprisoned and other persons are held as witnesses. It is said that the names of the persons found playing will be made public, so that merchants may discover their dishonest clerks and subordinates."

The faro banks will also be taken in hand. Suits have already been entered by the Association against keepers of these places to recover money lost in them. Among others, a suit has been brought against John Morrissey for the recovery of $34,000 lost by a Californian. Skillful detectives are employed, legal counsel furnished gratuitously to sufferers, and everything done that can be to recover money lost by gambling and secure the punishment of the keepers of gambling resorts. It is also proposed to employ detectives to visit gambling saloons to secure the names and business of young men who frequent such places. If these plans are vigorously carried out, they must result in a great curtailment of this wide-spread evil.

State Reform School. On Tuesday last, as we learn from the Portland *Press*, Gov. Chamberlain with a portion of the Council and the Trustees of the State Reform School visited that Institution, and made a general inspection of the school, farm, brick yard, buildings, &c., all of which were found in a satisfactory condition, under the judicious management of Hon. E. W. Woodbury, the present Superintendent. The season was far advanced when Mr. Woodbury assumed the duties of Superintendent, but he is confident of being able to manufacture at least 500,000 bricks and 40,000 drain tile. The hay crop, which has been well secured, is estimated at 125 tons. The oats, barley, &c., have not been harvested. Three cases of shoes are manufactured weekly, besides other work. Mr. Woodbury's chief success, however, is in the management of the boys under his charge, whose confidence he has evidently gained by the interest he manifests in their general improvement and wellfare. The following bill of fare of the institution will show that the boys have nothing to complain of on the score of wholesome and palatable provisions for the table:

Breakfast—Flour Bread and Coffee.

Dinner—Sunday—Baked Beans & Brown Bread. Monday—Corned Beef and Vegetables. Tuesday—Soup. Wednesday—Chowder. Thursday—Stewed Beans or Peas, green or dry. Friday—Salt Fish. Saturday—Fresh Meat, baked or fried.

Supper—Flour Bread, Gingerbread or Pudding, Coffee or Milk.

Each boy is supplied with all the food he wants.

After the inspection of the farm, &c., the boys were convened in the school room, and briefly addressed by the Governor in his usual happy manner.—There are now about 180 boys in the school.

Removal of Gen. Sickles. The New York *Times* special dispatch of August 25th, says that the President has announced the removal of Gen. Sickles as Commander of the Military District comprising South and North Carolina, and the appointment of Gen. Canby as his successor. The removal of Gen. Sickles is in consequence of an alleged over-stepping the limits of his authority in sustaining his subordinate, Col. Frank, commanding at Wilmington, who prevented the service of a precept issued from the Circuit Court over which Chief Justice Chase presided.

Gen. Sickles says that he has interfered with the precepts issuing from United States Courts in his district because the rebels have discovered that they can evade his orders enforcing the reconstruction law, by transferring their cases to those tribunals. Many cases arose in the matter of collecting debts contracted during the rebellion; it was only necessary for the holders of these debts to transfer their claims to citizens in other States to get the suits into the United States Courts and obtain judgment. Gen. Sickles a short time since telegraphed a summary of these matters to Gen. Grant, and the latter telegraphed in reply that Gen. Sickles should continue to enforce his order. The order referred to directed the courts not to take cognizance of suits arising from causes occurring during the war.

☞ The tempest of wind and rain on the night of the 18th inst., was the most violent and destructive which has visited this vicinity for years. In Readfield as we learn from the Lewiston *Journal*, hundreds of large trees were uprooted and broken down, chimneys torn from the roofs, and the bricks sent whistling through the air rods from the buildings. Hundreds of rods of fence were laid prostrate. One barn on Kent's Hill was nearly "set on end." Windows were broken and shingles lifted from the roofs, which with the leaves and twigs from the trees completely filled the air. Hundreds of bushels of nice grafted apples, pears, &c., were blown off, grapes and other vines torn in pieces, &c.

In Fayette and East Livermore, the storm was equally violent. A Mr. Ridland's barn in East Livermore was struck by lightning. The lightning also struck the Morrill homestead in Belgrade, destroying it with the outbuildings. Loss, $3,000, insured for $700. The course of the storm was from northwest to northeast. The corn and grain in the track of the storm, was literally beaten into the ground.

A Narrow Escape. The late train on the Portland & Kennebec Railroad on Friday night, 16th inst., was saved from an accident which would have involved a serious loss of life, by the thoughtfulness and prompt action of Mr. B. B. Sweetser of Cumberland Centre. The heavy rain of Thursday and Friday so flooded the low land as to wash away the culverts in several places. At one place near Cumberland the embankment was washed away, for about ten to twelve feet, leaving nothing but the track and sleepers to support the approaching train. Mr. Sweetzer discovered this fact while going to the pasture after his sheep, and stood on the track with lantern in hand during the pelting rain, swinging it so that the engineer might see it and stop the train in season to prevent an accident. After a delay of nearly an hour the track was repaired so that the train could proceed to Augusta.

☞ Now the season for summer and bowel complaints is upon us, every family should have some simple yet efficacious remedy at hand. Such is the "safe and sure Cholera Preventive," prepared and sold in Augusta by Chas. K. Partridge, Druggist. It is a good and reliable remedy for diarrhœa, dysentery and bowel complaints, as many of our citizens can testify.

☞ The Lewiston *Journal* says that on Wednesday last, Mrs. Richmond, widow of the late Abiathar Richmond of Green, was thrown from a wagon by her horse taking fright, and so badly injured that she died in three-quarters of an hour.

☞ On Saturday night last, the barn of Mr. Joseph Taylor of Norridgewock was struck by lightning, and completely destroyed. Mr. Taylor had just driven in with a yoke of oxen, and had scarcely time to get them out.

☞ The *National Intelligencer* contains an editorial article said to be prompted by the President, calling upon Secretary Seward to resign his seat in the Cabinet.

The Attack on the Pirates of Formosa. The Navy Department has received despatches from Rear Admiral Bell, commanding the Asiatic Squadron, detailing the operations of the flag ship Hartford and the Wyoming, against the inhabitants of the south side of the island of Formosa in punishment for the murder of the Captain and crew of the American bark Rover. These operations seem not to have resulted very successfully to the attacking party. After detailing the preparations for landing on the island on the morning of the 13th of June, Admiral Bell says:

"The landing of one hundred and eighty-one officers, sailors and marines, provided with four days rations and water was made at 9:30 o'clock under the command of Capt. G. E. Belknap of the Hartford, accompanied by Lieut. Commander Alex. S. Mackenzie, Fleet Lieutenant, as second in command. The savages dressed in clouts and their bodies painted red were seen through our glasses assembled in parties of ten or twelve on the cleared hills, about two miles distant. Their muskets glistening in the sun indicated what kind of arms they carried. Their movements were visible to us on board during most of the day. As our men marched into the hills the savages knowing the path, boldly decided to meet them, and gliding through the high grass and from cover to cover displayed a stratagem and courage equal to our native Indians. Delivering their fire they retreated without being seen by our men, who, charging upon their covers frequently fell into ambush. Our detachment pursued them in this harrassing manner out of sight of the ship until two o'clock, when having halted to rest the savages crept up and fired upon the party commanded by Lieut. Commander Mackenzie. That officer placing himself at the head of the company commanded by Lieut. Sands, daringly led a charge into the ambuscade that was laid for them, and fell mortally wounded by a musket ball, and died whilst being carried to the rear. Several officers and men having already experienced sunstrokes, and the command being generally exhausted and worn out by their efforts to get at the enemy during four hours marching, Commodore Belknap now thought it expedient to regain their picket on the beach; and during this march of two or three miles many of the men got into so deplorable a condition from the killing heat of the sun that the Commander determined to return them on board ship, which he reached about 4 P. M., after an exhausting march of six hours with the sun at 92 degrees. That afternoon the fleet surgeon reported the casualties of the day as one killed and fourteen sunstruck, one of them dangerously.

In consideration of the unfitness of sailors and marines for bush fighting, and the prostrate condition of the men, Admiral Bell determined not to land the men again, particularly as they had already done all that was practicable for them, namely, burned a number of native huts and chased their warriors until they could chase no longer.

Their coverts of green jungles and green grass being fire-proof at this season, could not be destroyed, as was contemplated.

The only effectual remedy against barbarous outrages on shipwrecked men by this tribe, who are not numerous, will be for the Chinese authorities on the island to occupy this bay with a settlement of their own, protected by a military force, which may be effected through our Minister at Pekin.

Disastrous Flood in Australia. Despatches received from Sidney, in New South Wales give accounts of a devastating calamity which visited that Colony in June last. Five day's rain had flooded the country and five gales had dashed helpless wrecks on the coast. The highest flood marks were sixty feet above the ordinary level. Hundreds of houses were swept away and thousands of live stock destroyed. The crops are ruined and many lives lost. One family of nine persons were drowned, and in another case twelve persons, of the families of two brothers, lost their lives. Hundreds were rescued from the tops of trees, haystacks and roofs of houses. Numbers were almost starving and houseless and naked. Subscriptions for their relief were flowing in and would do much to alleviate the distress. Four schooners were wrecked, and several seamen drowned. An account says:

"On Friday, the 21st of June, accounts reached Sydney which startled and alarmed the whole of the inhabitants, but which, unhappily, proved to be true. The whole of the valley of the Hawksbury river had been flooded to a hight unknown and unrecorded by the oldest inhabitant or by history. The town of Windsor was surrounded by water, and so sudden had been the rush of the flood from the high lands, in consequence of the previous saturation of the ground, the farmers and their families had to flee for their lives, abandoning all they posessed to the raging waters. The incidents that occurred were most shocking. In one case a farmer sat upon the roof of his house with his family for twenty hours, holding his youngest child in his arms until the infant died from the effects of cold and exposure, for the rain was still pouring down in torrents, and the whole of the surrounding land was one wide sea of water. The father then had to throw his dead child into the flood, and take up another in the hope of preserving it. On Saturday morning the 22d, the house gave way, and was swept down with the flood, drowning the mother and nine other children. The father and four others were saved by the boats which had been sent off to rescue these unfortunate sufferers. By this time the whole of the valley was inundated, and the fertile district of Richmond presented the appearance of a great lake. Fears were felt that the town of Windsor itself, where at this time some thousands of persons were congregated, would be involved in the general devastation, but happily this did not occur. The flood was so sudden and so overwhelming that all means of escape seemed to be cut off, and many families, some consisting of weak mothers and young children, suffering from severe illness, had to remain for hours on the roofs of their houses during the severest weather that has ever been known on this coast, until succor could be given. As soon as this sad intelligence was known the Government acted with the utmost promptitude. Boats and crews to man them were dispatched by railway to the nearest point to Windsor, and although the flood was still rushing down in a torrent, and a part of the railway was submerged, the brave men who manned these boats succeeded at last in reaching the scene of desolation and rescuing very many who had almost given up all hope."

Desperate Battle with Indians. A despatch from Fort Hayes, Kansas, dated the 23d inst says:

"A courier has just arrived from Capt. Ames, with despatches to Capt. Corbin to the effect that Capt. Ames has had a severe battle with 800 Indians, under Satante, on the Republican river. Their village was two miles long. Capt. Ames charged twice through their wigwams. The savages fought desperately. Three of our men were killed and 25 wounded, and 30 horses lost. The Indians lost severely, but finally repulsed our troops. Our dead were left on the field. There was an immense amount of stolen stock in the Indian village. The savages surrounded our troops, and the fight lasted three days. Two of our men killed belonged to the Kansas Cavalry, and one to the Regulars. Capt. Ames had 125 men.

The despatch says a strong force, under Maj. Elliott, and some Kansas cavalry, leave for Indian village, in light marching order, this morning. A severe battle is anticipated. We have not enough troops here.

☞ The Gardiner *Journal* states that a violent tornado passed through Pittsfield in Somerset county, on Sunday, 18th inst. Two new houses, one owned by Mr. Melvin Brackwell, and nearly finished, and the other entirely finished, owned by Obed Foss, were thrown down and ruined. A new store in course of erection by Jesse Connor was blown over, but as it was only boarded and partly shingled, his loss is comparatively light. Hathorne's large brickyard suffered quite severely, the kiln house being entirely demolished, under which were seven men at work; and it seems almost a miracle that none were severely injured by the falling boards and timber, among which they stood.

Sad Casualty. The Belfast *Journal* says a boy ten years old, a son of Mr. Charles Jellerson, was walking the street in Monroe village with a pail. He placed the pail over his head, and in crossing the bridge walked through a small gap in the railing off the side of the bridge into the water. From the bridge to the water is about ten feet. The father being near, rushed into the water to save the son, and although a good swimmer immediately sunk. Before he could be got out life was extinct. The boy was saved.

☞ The Portland correspondent of the Ellsworth *American* writes:—"An interesting case is expected to come up in the U. S. District Court in this city in September. It was an action to recover the amount of judgment recorded in the State Court of Louisiana against General Neal Dow for personal property confiscated during the rebellion. It was assigned for June, but was postponed in consequence of the absence of the respondent in Europe."

☞ We notice with much pleasure the success of the "Crescent Paper Collar Co.," of Boston, under the direction of the well known firm of F. A. Hawley & Co. They were pioneers in this business, and the secret of their success is, that they have always made a superior collar and sold them at fair prices. The beauty, strength and fit of these collars should induce every one to try them. See their advertisement.

The Sun and the Stars. The stars all "go out" by daylight. So must all the common adulterated compound of Saleratus disappear before Pyle's; that defies all competition. Try it! Ask your grocer for Pyle's Saleratus, and see that his name is on the package.

Choice Toilet Preparations. Lubin's Lavender Water, Magnolia, and Bay Waters, Fine Colognes and Perfumeries are to be had at Partridge's Drug Store.

Magnolia Water. A delightful toilet article—superior to Cologne, and at half the price.

KEROSENE OIL. We clip from the Springfield Republican the following, in which our citizens, and the people generally, have a deep interest:

"It is now ascertained that the oil in the lamp, the explosion of which, Friday evening, fatally injured Miss Taylor, on Elliot street, was not kerosene, but naptha or benzine, sold under another name, and an article the most explosive and dangerous of the products of the crude petroleum. For some time past, parties have been in the city and the towns in the vicinity, offering this article for sale to the merchants under the name of "Patent oil," "Commercial oil," &c., assuring them that it is perfectly safe, and superior to kerosene. Many merchants have been taken in by them, and induced to sell the oil, being ignorant of its real character, as was the case with the grocer who sold the oil, the explosion of which caused Miss Taylor's death. But in fact it is exceedingly dangerous to use any of this oil in the kerosene lamps, notwithstanding the assertions of the bogus patentees. There is an article called petroleum fluid, prepared from benzine, which is safe to use in the small, packed fluid hand lamps made for its use, and as a generator of gas, and in those ways only. Merchants and families cannot be too careful in the purchase of illuminating oils. They should buy only of well known and responsible dealers, and be sure to get nothing but kerosene oil of the standard fire test."

The Portland Kerosene Oil Company are now manufacturing an oil, to stand a fire test of 135 degrees, 15 degrees above what the statute of the State requires. It is important that our readers should know that parties from the West and South are selling oil in our State that does not come up to the fire test required by the law. Let the public be on its guard against dealers in such oils.

☞ Among the many awards of First Prize Gold Medals at the Paris Exposition, two only were given to manufacturers of Organs. The recipients were Messrs. Mechlin & Schut, of France and Belgium, for large organs, who also received the decoration of the Legion of Honor, and Messrs. Alexandre & Son of Paris, for the best reed organs.

The harmoniums or "Alexandre organs" of the latter house, have had a world-wide notoriety for many years, but they have never obtained popularity in the United States on account of their loud and reedy quality of tone, yet the internal mechanism is very fine and durable, and has been greatly commended by all who have inspected these instruments.

Competent and disinterested judges who are well informed in relation to the merits of reed organs manufactured in Europe as well as in this country, and who have carefully examined the American Organs, manufactured by Messrs. S. D. & H. W. Smith of Boston, have pronounced them unexcelled even by the Alexandre Organ," in the beauty and perfection of the internal workmanship, while in the quality of tone, whether soft, smooth or powerful, in variety of combination or delicate expressive effects, they have been adjudged far superior, though they were not on exhibition at the Paris Exhibition.

☞ While science has labored for the benefit of the human race, it is but a poor return to have imitators start up and claim merits for their articles which never existed except in appearance. Since Hall's Vegetable Sicilian Hair Renewer has been introduced, and the remedial effects of this valuable preparation have been so plain, a legion have commenced manufacturing their nostrums. In point of merit there is no comparison, no more than the counterfeit resembles the genuine bank bill. One has a value for which the holder receives its value, while the other is worthless and is palmed off upon the unwary. The effects of Hall's Sicilian Hair renewer upon the head is to renew the growth of the hair, restore it to its natural color when it has become gray, and cure all diseases of the scalp. The effects are seen from the first bottle. *Weekly Times.*

"To be, or not to be—that's the question."
Whether to suffer with mental anguish,
Feverish lips, cracking pains, dyspeptic agonies,
And nameless bodily suffering;
Or whether, with sudden dash,
Seize a bottle of Plantation Bitters,
And, as Gunther swears, be myself a man again.
Gunther said my eyes were sallow,
My visage haggard, my breath tremendous bad,—
My disposition troublesome—in fact,
He gently hinted I was fast becoming
Quite a nuisance.
Four bottles now beneath my vest have disappeared—
My food has relish, my appetite is keen, [ed,
My step elastic, my mind brilliant, and
Nine pounds, avoirdupois, is added to my weight.
2w38

THE MASON & HAMLIN CABINET ORGANS. The extraordinary success of Messrs. Mason & Hamlin introducing their Cabinet Organ is based, without doubt, on the excellence of the instrument. They are not content, however with what they have already accomplished, and with the bushels of testimonials and peeks of medals which they have received, but are constantly investigating what inventors consider improvements, and purchasing and using them if they are found of value.—*Boston Advertiser.*

The Markets.

AUGUSTA PRICE CURRENT.

TUESDAY, August 27, 1867.

[Corrected weekly by J. McARTHUR, J. HUDAN & Co., C. H. MULLIKEN & Co., and E. G. STORER.]

Flour,	$10.00 to 18.00	Clear Salt Pork,	$18.00 to 20.00
Corn Meal,	1 30 to 1 35	Mutton ℔ lb.	6 to 9
Rye Meal,	2 00 to 9 00	Spring Lamb ℔ lb,	8 to 10
Wheat,	none	Veal,	5 to 7
Rye,	1 60 to 1 75	Turkeys ℔ lb,	15 to 20
Corn,	1 30 to 1 35	Chickens ℔ lb,	15 to 21
Barley,	1 00 to 1 10	Clover Seed,	Nominal
Beans,	4 50 to 5 00	Herdsgrass,	"
Oats,	75 to 80	Red Top,	"
Potatoes,	65 to 75	Hay ℔ ton,	$15 to 15
Dried Apples,	10 to 12	Lime,	1 40 to 1 60
Cooking Apples,	50 to 75	Fleece Wool,	37 to 42
Butter,	25 to 28	Pulled Wool,	40 to 45
Cheese,	18 to 20	Sheep Skins,	45 to 60
Eggs,	23 to 25	Hides,	9 to 10
Lard,	14 to 18	Calf Skins,	17 to 20
Beef,	10 to 13	Lamb Skins,	40 to 75
Round Hog,	11 00 to 12 00	Wood, hard,	$ 5 50 to 7 00

CATTLE MARKETS,

AT BRIGHTON, CAMBRIDGE AND MEDFORD

WEDNESDAY, August 21, 1867.

At market:	*Cattle.*	*Sheep.*	*Hogs.*	*Veal*
This week,	2274	9856	1725	193
Last week,	2743	9434	2300	125
One year ago, (Aug. 22,)	2238	8105	2920	109

PRICES.

BEEVES—Extra qual... $13.00@00 00 | Per 100 lbs. on the total weight of hide, tallow, and dressed beef.
First qual..... 12.25@12.75
Second do..... 11.00@12.00
Third do..... 10.00@10.75
Poorest grades of oxen, bulls, &c., $6.50@9 00

WORKING OXEN—$175 to 275; handy steers, $137 to 200, or a little above their value as beef.

MILCH COWS—$55@75; Extra, $80@100; Heifers; farrow, $40@55.

SHEEP—℔ lb., 5@6c; Extra, 6@—c

HIDES—Brighton, 10@11c; country lots, 10@10½c. CALF SKINS 18@20c. TALLOW, 7½@8c ℔ lb.

PELTS—Lambs, 62½ ; Sheep, 40@62½ ℔ lb.

SHOTS—Wholesale, 9@0c ; retail 0@0c ℔ lb.

DROVES OF CATTLE FROM MAINE.

G Wells, 24; J Abbott, 16; J L Bassett, 46; R D Blinn, 6.

REMARKS. There are not so many cattle from the West as there was one week ago, the quality upon an average is better, there being more of a medium class and less poor ones. The supply of extra beeves is not large. Prices have advanced from 25 to 50 cents ℔ hundred from our last quotations. The trade was not so active on Saturday as droves would like to see it, but on account of the advance in prices, butchers felt loth to buy largely upon that day. The supply from Maine consists most of stores and working oxen

SALES OF MAINE CATTLE. Mr G. Wells sold beef oxen at 12c ℔ lb. and working oxen at from $150. to $240 ℔ pair. S L. Bassett sold one pair of small three year-old steers for $137, and another pair for $168; one pair 6 ft 3 in. $ 75; 1 pair 6 ft 4 in. $180; 6 ft 6 in. $200; 6 ft 7 in. $ 05; three yearlings at $49. Was asking $40 for two-year-olds. R. D. Blinn sold 3 prs, which girthed from 6 ft 8 in to 7 ft for $200 ℔ pair.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—DROVES FROM MAINE.

H. Ra cliffe, 117; Copp & Radcliffe. 120; J. M. Pierce, 130; S. Stall, 74; Frost & Lawrence, 72; J. Haley, 40; Mr. Tuck, 74; Mr. Morse, 33

There are not so many sheep and lambs in market as there was last week, trade is not much different. We quote a lot of 72 lambs at $2 90, one lot at $3 50 one lot at $3 50, 60 old sheep at $3 00@3 50 ℔ head, 52 at $2 25, 113 at $3 50.

PORTLAND MARKET.

PORTLAND, August 24, 1867.

APPLES—Green ℔ bbl. $5 00@7 00; Sliced, ℔ ℔ 15@ 16.

BUTTER—Country ℔ lb25, @28. Choice Table, 30@35 ; Store 17@18.

BEANS—Marrow ℔ bush. $2 00@2 00 ; Pea $4 75@4 25 ; Blue Pod, $4 25@4 75.

CHEESE—New, 12@16c

FISH—Cod, large shore, ℔ quin. $6 00@7 00 ; large Bank ℔ quin. $5 00@6 00 ; small Bank, ℔ quin. $3 00@4 00 ; Scaled ℔ quin, $3 25@4 45 ; Haddock ℔ quin. $2 00@2 25 ; Hake $2 00@2 50 ; Herring, shore, ℔ bbl., $6 00@7 00 ; Scaled ℔ box, 35c@45c; No. 1 Herring ℔ box, 20@25c; Mackerel, ℔ bbl. — Bay No. 1, $18 00@20 00 ; Bay No. 2, $00 00@00 00 ; Shore No. 1, $19 00@20 00 ; Shore No. 2, $00 00@ 00.00, Shore No. 3, small $6 00@7.25

GRAIN—Rye, $1 75@1 85 ; Oats 90@ 95c ; mixed corn, $1 22 @1.25; Yellow, $1 2@1 28 ; Barley, nominal , Shorts per ton $42@45.

HAY—℔ net ton, pressed, $24@00 00 ; loose $15@20.

HIDES AND SKINS—Western 18@19 ; Slaughter Hides, 10 @ 11c ; Calf Skins, 20@00 ; Lamb Skins 1 00@1 25.

PRODUCE—Potatoes ℔ bush, $ 61 @ 75 ; Beef ℔ lb., 10@ 13c ; Eggs ℔ doz., 25@26c ; Turkeys, 20@25c ; Chickens, 17@ 20c ; Geese, 20@23 ; Onions, $1 25@1 50 ℔ bush. ; Lamb, 18@20c; Veal 10@12c.—*Price Current.*

BOSTON WOOL MARKET.

SATURDAY, August 24, 1867.

It is estimated that less than half the clip of the great wool-growing States has been sold out of first hands, and it is safe to say that not much more will come forward until prices in the producing and consuming markets once more regain their equilibrium. Nowithstanding the low rate which have ruled during the week, if country prices shall further break down, and the flood of consignments continue to pour in upon us, a further decline in Eastern rates can hardly be avoided.

Transactions for the week foot up sales of some 1,500,000 lbs at a range of 40@60c for fleece, and 15@50 for the various grades of pulled. Sales of 6000 lbs of Maine Combing wools are reported at 52c ℔ lb.

BOSTON MARKET.....Aug. 24.

FLOUR—Western Superfine, $8 00@10.00 ; Common extras at $10.0 @11, 25, Medium extras at $11. 50@12.50; and good and choice, including favorite St. Louis brands, at $13.00@16.00 ℔ bbl

CORN—Western mixed, $1 20@1.22, yellow, $1.30c@1.30

OATS—Northern and Canada, 90@92c ℔ bush ; P. E. Island 90@00c.

RYE—1 40 @ 1 60 ℔ bush. Shorts $28@$30; Fine Feed $35@ 40 ; and Middlings at $42@45 ℔ ton.

HAY—Sales from $20 to$ 23.

NEW YORK MARKET.....Aug. 19.

FLOUR—State, $7 10@11.40 ; round hoop Ohio, $8.65@11.50 Western, $7.10@13 20; Southern, $9 05@14.00; Canada dull.

WHEAT—No. 2 Milwaukee new, $1.30@$1.95; Milwaukee Club 00.

CORN—Mixed western, 1,10@1,13

Special Notices.

DR. SCHENCK, THE LUNG DOCTOR.

☞ The Proprietor of SCHENCK'S PULMONIC SYRUP, the Inventor of SCHENCK'S RESPIROMETER, the only instrument that can to a certainty detect the slightest murmur of the respiratory organs.

This is of great importance to Dr Schenck, to know the exact condition of the lungs, whether it is Tuberculous, Pulmonary, Bronchial Pleuritic, or Dyspeptic Consumption, and whether it is both lungs or only one that is deceased.

It requires constant and long practice to become familiar with every sound or rattling of a deceased bronchial tube. Patients come to Dr. Schenck to get examined that have been examined by their family physician, who told them that their lungs were almost gone; when by a close examination with the Respirometer, it is often found that it is an affection of the bronchial tube; and by getting a healthy action of the liver and tone of the stomach, the sufferer is soon restored to health. Some times medicine that will stop a cough is certain death to the patient. It locks up the liver, stops the circulation of the blood—hemorrhage follows, and in fact, stopping the action of the very organs that caused the cough.

DR. SCHENCK will be professionally at his rooms every week, 32 Bond street, New York, and 35 Hanover street Boston, from 9 A. M. until 3 P. M. He gives advice free, but for a thorough examination with the Respirometer the charge is five (5) dollars. His medicines are for sale by all druggists and dealers. Also a full supply at all times at his rooms. Price of the Pulmonic Syrup and Seaweed Tonic each $1.50 per bottle, or $7.50 the half dozen. Mandrake Pills 25 cents per box.

GEO. C GOODWIN & CO., 38 Hanover street, Agents for Boston. For Sale by all druggists. eoply52

DR. SCHENCK'S MEDICINES,

old in Augusta by TITCOMB & DORR, Druggists.

DR. SCHENCK'S MEDICINES,

Sold in Augusta at FULLER'S Drug Store. 21

DAVIS' PAIN KILLER.

No. 43, Gloucester St., Davenport, England.

Gentlemen:—I have great pleasure in recommending the Pain Killer. For more than three months I suffered severely with a sore throat, for which I consulted the best physicians, but derived no benefit until, by a friend's advice, I tried your Pain Killer as a gargle. In a short time it completely cured me. While in India I frequently gave your medicines to the natives when no doctor could be had, in cases of severe headaches, rheumatic pains, cramps in the stomach and cholera, *and it always cured them.* I consider it a most valuable family medicine.

Yours, &c., 2w38 STEPHEN MILES.

DR. LANGLEY'S ROOT AND HERB BITTERS.

The Great Blood Purifier; the best Health Restorer, and the most perfect Spring and Summer Medicine ever used.

They effectually cure Jaundice, Dyspepsia, Liver and Bilious Complaints, General debility, and all kindred diseases.

They clear out the system, regulate the bowels, restore the appetite, drive out all humor, purify the blood, and strengthen and invigorate, build up, and restor to health and soundness, both body and mind, all who use them. Sold by all dealers in medicine. GEO C. GOODWIN & CO., 38 Hanover street, Boston. 16weop14

Turner's Tic Doloureux or Universal Neuralgia Pill

is a safe, certain and speedy Cure for Neuralgia and all Nervous Diseases. The severest cases are completely and permanently cured in a very short time. Neuralgia in the face or head is utterly banished in a few hours. No form of Nervous disease withstands its magic influence. It has the unqualified approval of many eminent physicians It contains nothing injurious to the most delicate system. Sold everywhere Sent on receipt of $1.00 and two postage stamps.

TURNER & CO.,
1y30 120 Tremont street, Boston, Mass., Proprietors.

FISHER'S COMPOUND MANDRAKE BITTERS.

From the original recipe. Unrivalled for its efficiency. A sure cure for **Diseases of the Blood and Secretions.** Prepared only by G. W. Wallingford, grandson of the late Dr. Fisher. N. SON SYMONDS & CO., Kennebunk, Me., Proprietors; RUSE BROS. & BIRD, 43 Hanover St., Boston, sole agents for New England. 3m26

MOTH & FRECKLES.

The only reliable remedy for those brown discolorations on the face called Moth Patches and Freckles, is PERRY'S MOTH AND FRECKLE LOTION Prepared only by Dr. B. C Perry Dermatologist, 49 Bond St., New York. Sold by all druggists in Augusta and elsewhere. Price $2 per bottle 6m15

FISHER'S COUGH DROPS.

A standard remedy for COUGHS and CONSUMPTION, prepared by G. W. Wallingford, grandson of the late Dr. Fisher. NASON, SYMONDS & CO., Kennebunk, Me., Proprietors; G. C. GOODWIN & CO., 38 Hanover St., Boston, N. E. Agents. 3m26

Whiskers. DR LAMONTE'S CORRILLIA will force Whiskers upon the smoothest face, or Hair upon Bald Heads. Never known o fail. sample sent for 10 cents. Address REEVES & CO., 48 Nassau St., New York. 1y30*

NOTICE.

The semi-annual meeting of the Kennebec County Agricultural Society will be held at the Hall on the Show Ground at Readfield Corner on Monday, September 2 1 at 1 o'clock P. M.

E. Winthrop, Aug. 19, 1867. 37 DAVID CARGILL, Sec'y.

$50 TO $100 PER MONTH

Can be made by my New Agencies. Inclose stamp for particulars. 33tf R. M. MANSUR, Augusta, Me.

Married.

In Augusta, Aug 22d, by Rev. J Ricker, Wm. H. Woodbury to Emma J. G. Norcross, both of Augusta.

In Hallowell, Aug. 7th, by Rev. C. G. M'Culley, W. H. Gilman to Emma M. Brann, both of H.; Aug. 11th, by Thomas Hovey, Esq., Charles H Patten to Emma F. Brann, both of H.

In Somerville, Aug. 21 4, by A. B. Baxter, Esq., Charles R. Rice to Maria E. Malcom, both of Somerville; Aug. 25th, Siah Bruce, of Somerville to Sibnie E. Rand, of Cambridge, Mass.

In New Sharon, Aug 20th, by Rev. James Smith, James W. Smith, of Fayette to Hattie L. Fuller, of New Sharon.

In Vassalboro', Aug. 15th, by Rev. N. Webb, Rev. George B. Palmer, of Lincoln to Sarah F. Doe, of Vassalboro'.

Died.

In Belgrade, Aug. 13th, Daniel Stevens, aged 83 years 3 mos.

In Wales, July 24d, Mrs. Margaret J. Cranmer, aged 39.

In East Readfield, Aug 10th, Melvin B. youngest son of B. H. and S. C Thomas, aged 8 years.

In Bethel, Aug. 23 h. George Collins, M. D., aged 29 years.

In East Livermore, July 23d, Leonard W. Farrington, aged 59.

In Diamond City, Montana Ter. March 24th, Henry F. Morrill, formerly of Brownville, Me., aged 48 years

In Brownville, June 14th, Lois Morrill, aged 16 years 9 mos.

In Ulsina, Catharine, widow of late Jonathan Nelson, aged 79.

In New Sharon, Lydia True, wife of George W. Griffin, aged 35 years 9 months.

THE PORTLAND KEROSENE OIL CO.

Would inform the public that they continue to manufacture

Portland Kerosene Oil,

FROM ALBERT COAL EXCLUSIVELY!

The prevalence of a large quantity of inferior and dangerous oils in the market, at a cheap price—many of which are a little better than Naptha itself—and the existence of false reports in regard to the Portland Kerosene Oil, render it a matter of justice to ourselves, as well as safety to consumers, that some notice should be taken of these facts. Therefore, we again present an advertisement, and would call attention to the high standard of our oil, the fire test of which is 135 degrees Fahrenheit, and often reaches considerably higher; also, we would say, that we are determined to maintain its long established reputation.

PORTLAND KEROSENE OIL COMPANY.
Portland, Me., Aug. 4th, 1867. 1y38

PORTLAND BUSINESS COLLEGE.

Corner of Elm and Congress Street.

This Institution offers to young men and ladies the best facilities for obtaining a thorough business education. Scholarship for full course in **Arithmetic, Commercial Law, Bookkeeping and Penmanship,** comprising both theory and practice, good in forty-five Colleges, constituting the "International Business College Association."

For further information, please call at the College, or send for College Paper, samples of money and specimens of penmanship. Address L. A. GRAY, Principal,
4w38 Portland, Me.

LARGE PUBLIC SALE

Of Short Horned Stock,

Will take place at Tarrytown, N. Y., near the Hudson River Railroad station, on

Thursday, the 19th day of September, 1867,

At which time over forty head of

Cows and Heifers, Bulls and Bull Calves,

from the Waldberg stables, will be offered—all in superior order, and bred from the choic st stock

The sale will be positive; no reserved bids.

For Cata ogue address T. H CONGER,
August 27 3t38 Haverstraw, N. Y.

BOSWORTH

Is selling WOOLEN GOODS at great bargains for

CASH.

ALSO,

CLOTHING and FURNISHING GOODS.

CUTTING

Done at Short Notice.

A few doors south of Ken. Bridge, Water St., Augusta. 38

GARDINER'S RHEUMATIC COMPOUND.

This superior article, the result of many years experience, has acquired great popularity with the leading physicians, the army, and the public generally. Dr. Gardiner has been indefatigable in his efforts in introducing this reliable remedy for rheumatism, neuralgia, and many other painful affections of the nervous system, and has now the confidence of all who have used it. Its wonderful success in the cure of the most painful diseases are speedily disappearing wherever its compound is permitted to exert its benign influence.

Principal Depot 81 Washington street, Boston. For sale by all Wholesale and Retail Druggists 6m34

PATENT BUSH AND ROOT EXTRACTOR

This new and valuable invention will do the work of forty men in eradicating juniper and other bushes from our grazing lands. It has been thoroughly tested and gives entire satisfaction and is the only patent ever issued for the above purpose, and is worthy of the attention of every farmer.

State and County Rights for sale by

S. S. BURR & CO.,
3t38 110 Hanover St., up stairs Boston, Mass.

J. B. FILLEBROWN,

SURGEON DENTIST,

Winthrop, Me.

3m38*

FREEDOM NOTICE.

I hereby certify that I have given to my son Charles B. Sylvester his time until of age. I shall not claim any of his earnings or pay any debts of his contracting after this date.

Witness. M. B. SYLVESTER. B. SYLVESTER.
Wayne, July 15th, 1867 3t38

TO LET.

The four story Brick Store, No. 8, known as the Kilburn & Barton store, situated on Water St., now occupied by Messrs. Barton & Russell. For further particulars address E. S. Soule, Freeport or Silas Leonard, Esq., Augusta. 38tf

KID GLOVES CLEANSED

Nicely at Steam Dye House, south of Railroad Bridge, next door to Tibbetts Clothing Store. 2w38

WANTED.

Coat, Pants, and Vest Makers at A. F. YORK'S, Brown & Hanson's Block, Middle Street, (opposite H. H. Hay's)

☞ Boston Prices paid 1m38

MAGNOLIA WATER.

Sweet Oppoponax, Night Blooming Cereus, Bouquet of Eden, Lubin's Extracts, and a variety of other Perfumes, Colognes, Bay Waters, &c. For sale at FULLER'S Drug Store. 38

WALKER'S IMPROVED HORSE RAKE.

Patented June 11, 1867, by

S. W. WALKER,

Anson, Me.

This great improvement of the Delano Rake makes it the most desirable and saleable Rake in the market.

Why Does It?

1st. The teeth sliding upon the ground makes it easier for the horse, making it take equally as well with the horse upon the trot upon smooth ground.

2d. It does not gather up turf, stubble or dirt.

3d. It will rake thin grass as well as thick, perfectly clean.

4th. It will tumble up hay in the best manner. Finally it has several other improves qualities and is afforded at less price than most rakes now before the public.

The Rake is light and easy to tip, the teeth being put on in sections hereby doing away with one-half the lags, and are so connected as not to be liable to rack or get out of place and are so made that if the the teeth meet with a solid obstruction, no harm is done to the rake. The rake is also excellent for raking grain Any one having the old Delano Rake can have these improved sections put on and thereby save buying a new rake.

We have recommendations from noted farmers who have bought and used them the past season and who prefer them to other kinds which they have used, among whom may be named Hon. H. B. Prescott, New Sharon; Joseph Clark Esq., Canaan; Nathaniel Webster Esq., Madison, and many other reliable farmers of Franklin and Somerset Counties.

Here is a chance for any live Yankee, business man, or mechanic who wants a good winter's job to go into a good paying business. Town, County, and State Rights for sale upon the most reasonable terms. All communications promptly answered by H. M. MANSUR, Augusta, Me., General Agent, or by the Patentee of Anson. 3t38*

MENDENHALL'S

Improved Self-Acting

HAND LOOM.

In these days of shoddy, and high-priced goods, every family in the country should have one.

HALF THE COST

of clothing a family can be saved by its use. It is simple and durable, easily understood, and easy to operate. No skill is required to weave with it beyond the simple turning of an easy crank. Ten different twills and styles of weaving can be made on the same warp, and the change from one kind to another is made in two minutes.

From 15 to 35 Yards can be Woven on It in a day.

FARMERS! Don't sell your wool and buy shoddy, when with one of these Looms in your fami y the girls can make all the clothing for the family and much better quality, at half price

By late improvements, RAG CARPETS can be woven with the LY SHUTTLE.

For circulars, price list, and samples of cloth woven on the Loom, address with stamp.

A. B. GATES & CO.,

333 Chesnut Street. Philadelphia. 3m38

CRESCENT PAPER COLLAR CO. BOSTON

The unbounded success of these collars has gained for them the reputation of being the **Best Fitting and Most Economical Collars** in use. Made in all styles,—in *Linen Finish—Enameled—Plain and Fancy.* At the **Reduced Price** now offered, they defy competition. For sale everywhere.

P. A. HAWLEY & CO.,

Selling Agents, 13 Otis & 24 Arch Sts., Boston.

Wholesale Dealers in Men's Furnishing Goods. Agents for "Plymouth Buck Gloves" 3t38

A GREAT NATIONAL WORK ON THE HORSE.

Will be ready for delivery in September.

WALLACE'S AMERICAN STUD BOOK,

Being a compilation of the Pedigrees of American and Imported Blood Horses from the earliest records, with an Appendix of all named animals without extended Pedigrees prior to the year 840. And a Supplement containing the History of all Horses and Mares that have trotted in public from the earliest trotting races till the close of 1866.

By J. H. WALLACE.

In one royal 8vo volume of over 1,000 pages.

Illustrated with 20 original Portraits of Celebrated Racers and Trotters, finely engraved on Steel, from paintings and drawings by distinguished artists.

TO BE SOLD EXCLUSIVELY BY SUBSCRIPTION.

Agents Wanted to Canvass for Subscribers *in every County in the Union.* Published by

W. A. TOWNSAND & ADAMS.
33tf No. 434 Broome Street, New York.

FARM AND STOCK FOR SALE.

The subscriber offers his farm for sale situated on Cross's Hill, in Vassalboro' within 8 miles of Augusta. Said Farm contains 90 acres of good land; cuts 30 tons of English hay; buildings in good repair; plenty of good water; has a first rate orchard; large supply of wood.

THE STOCK

consists of four oxen three cows and one horse. For further particulars inquire on the premises.

THOS. P. PATTERSON.
Cross's Hill, Aug. 25, 1867. 3t38

FARM FOR SALE.

The subscriber offers for sale his farm situated in North Vienna; contains 85 acres of good land suitably divided into mowing tillage, and woodland, and is fenced entirely with stone wall. Buildings in fair order; plenty of water—has every convenience desirable on a well arranged farm; cuts about 22 tons of hay—the hay was cut and raked this season with machinery—has good fruit and sugar orchard. This is a desirable location, with school and Post Office in the neighborhood.

For particulars refer to me at the Androscoggin Railroad Machine-shop, Farmington, or to SUSANNA TAYLOR on the premises

6:38* THOMAS TAYLOR.

FARM FOR SALE.

The subscriber offers his farm for sale, which is situated in Sidney between the river and middle roads, one mile from Bacon's Corner. Said farm contains 50 acres of good level land; well divided into tillage and pasturage. There are good buildings, plenty of water, in a good neighborhood, handy to school, and will be sold at a bargain. Apply to HENRY M. LEIGHTON.
Sidney, Aug. 20, 1867. 3t38*

HAY PRESSES!! HAY PRESSES!!

AUSTIN'S TRIUMPH HAY PRESS.

This Machine with four men will press with ease and certainty one ton of loose hay into 100 cubic feet at the rate of one ton per hour and at a less cost per ton than ordinary presses This machine saves about half the freight on hay wherever used, and gives a decided advantage in the hay business.

No beating, ro line or treading is required,—the press being self-loading or packing.

The hay is undosed.

Presses are portable and easily and quickly set up in a common barn floor.

It is acknowledged by every one who has witnessed its operations to be the best portable compress ever invented.

Presses for sale with the rights for the New England States.

☞ Send for Circular. Address S. J. AUSTIN,
4t37 Freeport, Maine.

7-30's OF 1864.

Holder of these notes must exchange them before Sept. 15th, or lose she right of conversion.

KLING & POTTER BROS.,

Bankers and Brokers,

Office same floor with FREEMAN'S NATIONAL BANK. Augusta. 34tf

NEW PLANING MILL.

The subscriber has recently set up a new Planing Machine in the Mill on the east end of the Kennebec Dam and is prepared to furnish all descriptions of planed lumber at the shortest notice and on reasonable terms. Boards and clapboards constantly on hand and planed for use. Also Trimmings of various kinds and Window Frames. J. M. POTTER.
Augusta, Aug 20, 1867. 3t37*

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE.

Whereas Josiah Priest Jr., of Vassalboro', in the county of Kennebec, died on the 8th of March, A D 1867, conveyed to certain pieces or lots of land situated in said Vassalboro', which said deed is recorded in the Register of Deeds Office in and for the County of Kennebec Book 214, Page 144 reference being had to said record for a description of the premises, and the condition of said mortgage having been broken, I hereby claim to foreclose the same. ALLEN BRACKETT.
China, August 14th, 1867. 3t37*

PURE HONEY,

Near to Market, Easy, and Cheap. Information of great value to Hotel keepers, Store keepers, Pedlars and all Families, sent free Address G. G BERRY,
3m37 North Strafford, N. H.

FURNACES! FURNACES!

COAL AND WOOD.

Wholesale and Retail

BY THE MANUFACTURER

E. D. NORCROSS,

2m33 **Augusta, Maine.**

WORMS! WORMS!!

Save the children—why let them suffer or die, when relief is at hand? Dr Gould's Pin Worm Syrup will speedily remove Pin Worms, or any other worms from the system without the slightest injury to the health.

It is a mild cathartic, and improves the health by removing all impurities from the system. Sold by

GEO C. GOODWIN & CO.
6m19 Boston, and all Druggists.

NEW GOODS.

We are now opening our Spring Stock consisting of Dress Goods in great variety. A full line of Domestics of the best manufacture, and at the *LOWEST MARKET PRICES.* Also a large assortment of woollens for Men's and Boy s wear. Cloths for Ladies and Misses' Sacques. A complete assortment of Hosiery, Gloves, Small Wares, &c. BARTON & RUSSELL.
April 22, 1867. 29

J. W. HARLOW,

Truckman,

Order slate at TITCOMB & DORR'S, and DEERING & HOLWAY'S Residence No. 20 Crosby St. Baggage, Furniture, Pianos, &c., moved with dispatch. 6m18

NOTICE.

The Annual Meeting of Oak Grove Association will be held at the Seminary on the 14th of 9th month next at 9 o'clock A. M at which time the necessary officers will be chosen.

THOS. B. NICHOLS, Clerk.
Vassalboro', 8th month 19th, 1867. 3t37

SOME MORE OF THOSE NICE KIDS,

Just received, only $1 25.

F. BRIDGE & CO.,
33 Successors to WEBBER & HOBSON.

CORSETS.

German Corsets, best makes in white and colors, at
April, 22. 1867. 29 BARTON & RUSSELL'S.

DR. POLAND'S HUMOR DOCTOR.

For the cure of humors of the blood is for sale in Augusta by
51 CHAS. K. PARTRIDGE, Druggist.

MAINE STATE HORSE FAIR,

TO BE HELD IN AUGUSTA,

SEPTEMBER 3d, 4th & 5th, 1867.

The MAINE STATE HORSE FAIR will be held at the State Trotting Park, Augusta, Me., on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept 3d, 4th, and 5th, under the management of the Proprietors.

$3,000 IN PREMIUMS.

All entries to be made to W. M. THAYER, Augusta, in sealed envelopes with money enclosed on or before Aug 31st, stating Class or Purse with name of horse and Entrance Fee—10 per cent to all Purses or Classes.

JOHN H. MORRILL, Marshal.
THAYER'S KREGAN, Proprietors.

The following are the Premiums offered:

GRAND SWEEPSTAKES OF $1000.

Open to all Trotting Horses.

First Premium	$700
Second "	200
Third "	100

Best 3 in 5. 3 to start.

PURSE—Fastest Span Trotting Horses to be owned by one man 1st premium, $400; 2d do. $40; best 2 in 3 in wagon.

PURSE—Open to all horses to wagon. 1st premium, 2 mile heats best 2 in 3, $80; 2 d do $40.

CLASS 1—Open to all running horses (catch weights), 2 mile heats best 2 in 3 1st premium, $75; 2 d do $25.

CLASS 2—Open to all trotting horses to saddle (catch weights) mile heats best 3 in 5. 1st premium, $50; 2d do $25.

CLASS 3—Open to horses owned in Maine 3 months prior to Fair, for Gentlemen's Driving Horses to Harness that have not trotted faster than 2 35 in public, 1st premium, $100; 2d do $50.

CLASS 9—Open to all horses that never beat 2 40, 1st premium $75; 2d do $25, mile heats best 3 in 5 to harness.

CLASS 3—Open to all Stallions raised and owned in Maine, 1st premium $150; 2d do best 3 in 5 in harness, $75.

CLASS 4—Fancy Matched Horses (expected to be considered), 1st premium $40; 2d do $20; 3d do $10; best 2 in 3 in wagon

CLASS 5—Best Tandem or Tridem, 1st premium $30; 2d do $25; mile heats best 2 in 5.

CLASS 6—Open to all horses owned in Maine 3 months prior to Fair, Gentlemen's Driving Horses that have not beat 2 45 in public, 1st premium, $75; 2d do $25 mile heats best 3 in 5 to harness.

PURSE—Open to all running horses (catch weights), 1st premium, $75; 2d do $25 mile heats best 3 in 5.

PURSE—Open to all Trotting Horses, 1st premium, $150; 2d do, $50, best 3 in 5 to harness.

PURSE—(Mule Race) open to all Mules, 1st premium $50; 2d do $25, one mile or two, best 3 in 5 to harness.

CLASS 7—4 years old and under 5, open to all geldings and Mares owned in Maine 3 months prior to Fair, 1st premium, $50; 2d do $25

In addition to the above purses the proprietors offer the following premium of $100:

To all 4 year old Stallions raised and owned in Maine, 1st premium $75; 2d do $25. Best 4 in 5 Harness.

EXTRA PURSE. 1st Premium, $40; 2d do $25. Open to all horses owned in Maine that have not beat 2 50.

EXTRA PURSE. 1st Premium $40; 2d do, $20. Open to all horses owned in Maine that have never beat 3 minutes.

For full particulars see large posters 36

AUCTION.

BY J. B. FOSTER,

Office No. 44 West Market Square.

Splendid Farm,

Farming Utensils,

Horses, Carriages, Harnesses, &c.

On Tuesday, September 10th,

At 10 o'clock A. M., on the premises, unless previously disposed of at private sale the splendid farm in Hampden, owned and occupied for the last 19 years by Mr. T. G RICH Mr Rich having decided to change his business, will sell his valuable farm and other property as above

This place is situated on the old road from Bangor to Hampden near the southerly line of the city of Bangor, and less than two miles from the Bangor House. It is regarded by many as the model Farm" of Penobscot County, and taking everything into account, it is safe to assert that there are few, if any, better farms in the County.

It has a front on the northerly side of the road of about 60 rods, and extends back nearly a mile, and all enclosed by a substantial fence, mostly of pine stumps, and contains a little more than 100 acres The Maine Central Railroad runs along the northerly line of the farm for more than half a mile. The soil is a deep loam, with clay bottom, and is adapted to any crop usually cultivated in this section of the State. About 80 acres are in mowing and tillage, 5 acres used as a pasture, and the remainder covered with a thrifty growth of wood It is well watered—a living spring on the back part of the lot, and a small brook runs across the place, in which there is always water. All that part of the farm that is under cultivation is very even, and free from stones and stumps, and so smooth that the whole can be mowed with a machine and raked with a horse rake.

For several years Mr. Rich cultivated extensively various grains and roots and being so near to the market found it very profitable but latterly has used the place chiefly for the production of hay, which has afforded higher profits with little labor. It is especially valuable as a hay farm Its close proximity to the city affords an opportunity to avail of the highest prices, and at the same time it is easy to procure "dressing" to keep the place in good condition. Mr. Rich has, however, availed himself of the benefits of other markets, being able to ship his hay by transporting it less than half a mile to Penobscot river, where vessels can load with every

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER

Poetry.

THE OLD STORY.

The waiting-women wait at her feet,
And the day is fading down to the night,
And close at her pillow, and round and sweet,
The red rose burns like a lamp alight.
Under and over, the gray mist lops,
And down, and down from the mossy eaves,
And down from the sycamore's long wild leaves,
The slow rain drops and drops and drops.

Ah! never had sleeper a sleep so fair!
And the waiting-women that weep around
Have taken the combs from her golden hair,
And it shideth over her face to the ground.
They have hidden the light from her lovely eyes;
And down from the eaves where the mosses grow
The rain is dripping, so slow, so slow,
And the night wind cries and cries and cries.

From her hand they have taken the shining ring,
They have brought the linen her shroud to make;
O, the lark she was never so loath to sing,
And the morn she was never so loath to awake!
And at their sewing they hear the rain,—
Drip-drop, drip-drop, over the eaves,
And drip-drop over the sycamore leaves,
As if there would never be sunshine again.

The mourning train to the grave have gone,
And the waiting-women are here and are there,
With birds at the windows and gleams of the sun
Making the chamber of death to be fair.
And under and over the mist unlaps,
And ruby and amethyst burn through the gray,
And driest bushes grow green with spray,
And the dimpled water its glad hands claps.

The leaves of the sycamore dance and wave,
And the mourners put off the mourning shows,
And over the pathway down to the grave
The long grass blows and blows,
And every drip-drop rounds to a flower,
And love in the heart of the young man springs,
And the hands of the maidens shine with rings,
As if life were a festival hour.

—Atlantic for August.

Our Story-Teller.

WEARING THEM TO SOME PURPOSE.

I.

Lydia, aged twenty, the only child of Sir Thomas and Lady Snaffles, of Blubluddy Park, Suffolk, having written to her quondam school-fellow and bosom friend, Julia Coutsher, two years her senior, wife of a doctor with an extensive practice in Halifax, Yorkshire, and mother of a fat boy fourteen months old, to the effect that if she did not come to spend a fortnight with her she would borrow a team of wild horses from Mr. Sangster, who was making a tour through her neighborhood, and come and drag her away forcibly—the propriety of accepting the invitation was seriously discussed in the medical mansion. The Coutshers were a happy couple, and averse to separation, but Julia was fond of her friend and glad to keep the bond between them taut. There were to be private theatricals and other gay doings at Blubluddy Park; and, as the Coutshers were not rich, and rather proud, Halifax was a dullish place for them. Lydia was a munificent godmother to the fat child. The Snaffles were a very old county family, and to be on intimate terms with them was very creditable. When one's wife goes to stay with an influential and much respected baronet, there is no knowing what may turn up. So it was settled that Lydia Snaffles might countermand her wild horses, for that Mrs. Coutsher would go without compulsion—for a week. Mr. Coutsher was included in the invitation, but his leaving his patients was of course an impossibility. He never did—while they lived; and when they ceased to do that, it was rather they who left him. The fat boy was likewise asked, but it was finally decided that he should remain with his father.

At 5.10 on an October evening, Mrs. Coutsher alighted on the Blubluddy end platform, and was immediately embraced and hungrily kissed by the impetuous Lydia—an operation which turned the hearts of five young male travelers by the down train to water. "O, you dear, delightful love of a Julia! how good of you to come! The carriage is waiting; the porters will look after your things. Well, and how are you? And so you have not brought my godson—left him as a hostage for your going back, have you? How is he? And your husband, how is he? Of course he could not come. Halifax would find it could get well without him, and that would never do! You are looking blooming. I am so glad!"

And so Lydia rattled on all the way to Blubluddy Park, which was about two miles off, hardly giving her friend time to put in monosyllables. But smiles, nods and shakes did just as well. "We dine at six," she said, when she had seen her in her room, with her box uncorded and opened, and her evening dress laid on the bed. "My room is only next door;" and she disappeared.

In twenty minutes she came back again, dressed for dinner, and found Julia also ready. They were exceptional and quick dressers.

"It wants ten minutes to the gong," said Lydia; "come and see my room, dear."

So they went into Lydia's bower, and the proprietress exhibited her dresses, jewels, and knick-knacks.

"Whatever is this thing?" asked Julia, taking up a silvered instrument.

"That? That is my spur, dear. When you press it so, a little prick comes out, like the sting of a bee."

"And what do you wear that for?"

"To make my mare go. They say money does that. I don't know; I think a spur is better."

"O Lydia, how can you? But you do not really prick the poor thing?"

"If the poor thing will not jump when I am out hunting, I do."

"Do you really and truly hunt, and take actual leaps? You said something about it in your letters, but I thought it was only fun."

"What is one to do, living in the country?"

"And what are these for?" continued Julia, pointing to a pair of thick, laced boots, with great nails in the soles.

"Those are my shooting-boots; and there are my gaiters. My gun is in papa's study. I will show it to you tomorrow."

"O no! I hate the sight of a gun. But you do not mean a real gun, that has powder, and goes off?"

"Of course I do. It is such a light little darling; kicks a little, though, if you do not hold it tight."

"One would think you were talking of a baby, dear," said Julia, laughing.

"You shall have a pop at the pheasants with it yourself," continued Lydia.

"I should die with fright, and be deaf forever afterwards," replied Julia.

"There's the gong."

Julia Coutsher, being a stranger, observed her hosts and neighbors at dinner somewhat carefully.

Sir Thomas was a very proud man in theory, but had no offensive pride of manner in practice. When he came to reason about it, he was rather surprised to find that common laborers had the same number of arms and legs as a man of his breed; but he showed no scorn in his actual intercourse with them. In his own house, he was hospitable, cheerful, and the slave of his daughter.

Lady Snaffles was as firm a believer in the mysteries of birth and blood as her husband. She professes to consider that ingratitude was the one great characteristic of the "lower orders," and she habitually spoke of persons who had raised themselves in the social scale by superior talents or industry as "dirt." But she was a good, motherly soul for all that—exceedingly charitable, and enjoyed a scandalous gossip with an old alms-woman most heartily. She was likewise completely under Lydia's authority.

It was wonderful to see how both the parents deferred to the lively girl, appealed to her opinion, listened to her, laughed at her fun, and turned to others with eyes which expressed: "Is she not brilliant, and clever, and beautiful? Yet she is positively our child!"

There were three guests. A fox-hunter, who was nothing else, and not now being in the hunting-field, was obscure—a quiescent steam engine, having coal and water supplied to it. Second, his sister, likewise possessed of only one faculty, that of liking classical music; and as, unfortunately, no one else in the room could soar above opera, or distinguish Sebastian Bach from tuning, she, too, only opened her mouth for commissariat purposes. Third, Mr. Robert Staunton, a handsome man of about thirty, of "good" family, possessing a large property immediately adjoining Blubluddy Park.

Julia Coutsher soon saw that Mr. Staunton admired Lydia quite as much as her parents did, and desired nothing more than to be elected slave Number Three. It was also evident that Sir Thomas and Lady Snaffles were exceedingly anxious to have him for a son-in-law.

But Lydia did not give him any encouragement, which was rather surprising, for he was as sensible and agreeable as he was good looking and eligible.

I do not mean to suggest that Julia Coutsher was such a wonderful physiognomist as to read all this in the people's faces at the dinner table. She had a whole evening to watch them in, and several confidential conversations with Lady Snaffles in the course of it.

At ten, the lovers of hunting, of symphonies, and of Lydia took their departures, and the household retired to rest.

Julia and Lydia sat over a fire in the bed-room of the former. They were in their dressing-gowns, ready to pop into bed in a minute. Julia had her hair all over her shoulders; Lydia had not, because it was cut short, and curled about like a boy's.

"Such a pity," said Julia; "such lovely hair as you had."

"Do you think so, dear?" replied Lydia. "It was coming off, and Snips, of Bond street, said, last season, that cutting it short for a time would restore it. He said, also, that this style suited my features—and then it is the fashion. It is very convenient, too, for riding; one's back hair can't come down where there's none to come, you know. Besides, it will be so very handy for our private theatricals, in which I am going to take a man's part."

"Lydia! how can you? How absurd! As if I was going to believe that!"

"It is quite true. I have got my clothes and will show them to you to-morrow. We want a pert young fellow of eighteen, and have got nothing but brawny men six feet odd; so you see I must come to the rescue. I make a capital man; you would never know me, especially when I have got my moustache on. Fact, upon my word, ya-as. Got a cigar about you, old sleer?"

"And what do Sir Thomas and Lady Snaffles say?"

"Why, it made them open their eyes at first; but I fully impressed with the wholesome idea that I must do what I like, and that if it seems wrong, I must be the laws and customs of the country that are in fault, and not their Lydia, that they soon dropped all opposition. Indeed, having private theatricals at all was such a pill for them to swallow, that their dear throats have been wider ever since."

"Well, I did wonder at their having them, and especially at their letting you act."

"Why, you see, dear, Lord Coulis, the head of the eldest family in the county, started it all, and Lady Augusta acted. The first fact converted papa, and the second mamma."

"I cannot think how you dare. O, Lydia, you never will be able to appear in he-clothes before a room full of people!"

"I shall not mind it a bit."

"You always were as bold as brass. If I were your mamma, though, I would not let you."

"If the cherub has a sister, Julia, you will make a terrible prude of her—will you not? Why did you not make a prude of me at school? You were two years older, and I thought you very wise."

"I was not an old married woman then," said Mrs. Coutsher; "I was a little flighty myself, I fear."

"Yes, you were, dear."

"And then you were so unmanagable. Somehow, it was impossible to help spoiling you; everybody did. But you were kept in better order there than at home. Sir Thomas and Lady Snaffles seem to let you do whatever you please."

"Ah, Julia, dearest," said Lydia, with a sigh, "they indulge me in trifling matters; but where the happiness of my life is concerned, they are obstinate and cruel."

"Indeed!"

"Yes, they want me to marry Mr. Staunton."

"Ah," said Julia, "and is that such a very great hardship? He seemed to me just the sort of husband you would like."

"Perhaps, if I had no prior attachment."

"Why," cried Julia, "you can never mean that affair between you and William Waters! That was quite a bit of boy-and-girl nonsense, not at all suitable either; and you cannot have seen him for a year and a half."

"Should you have forgotton all about Mr. Coutsher, if you had not seen him for a year and a half?"

"Perhaps. But that is quite different. We were in the same station in life, and our parents approved of our engagement."

"Why, that was all against you?" cried Lydia. "I don't believe there can be any true love without difficulty and opposition. You used to think so once. Don't you remember when William used to come under the play-ground wall and whistle, and throw letters over when I whistled back again? And how you and I used to read them, and concoct the answers together?"

"I am afraid we did."

"William was very respectable, I am sure; he was the son of a clergyman near here, you know, and used to be invited to the house. But he had no money, and his grandfather was in trade in Ipswich; so when he asked papa's leave to be engaged to me, papa broke out into a terrible passion, and called him dishonorable and turned him out of the house; and he said if William ever wrote to me, he would find him out, and horse-whip him; and William hasn't. Neither papa nor mamma ever scolded me; they treated me like a goosey girl who knew no better, and could not help myself, and they laid all the blame on poor William; and yet I am sure I had to give him tremendous encouragement at school, when we walked out two and two, and at church, before he dare do anything—hadn't I?"

"Yes, dear, you certainly did."

"I almost fancy that I was the first to write."

"I imagine that you did send a valentine or something. You had arrived at the mature age of thirteen at the time. What a puss? But have you ever met him since Sir Thomas forbade him the house?"

"Once; and he declared he would never marry any one else, and I promised the same. And I mean to keep my word, too; and if he is faithful I will marry him when I am twenty-one."

"And if he is not faithful, or misbehave in any way, then you will marry Mr. Staunton, I suppose?"

"Perhaps. O, Julia, it is a terrible thing to be crossed in love!"

"Sad, indeed, dear. It often ends in consumption, I have heard."

Lydia sighed; but she did not look consumptive.

It would have made a pretty picture—I mean, of course, for ladies, artists and fathers of families; not for modest bachelors—those two sitting over the fire in their dressing-gowns, because their styles of beauty were so different that each acted as a foil to the other. Lydia was dark, and lithe, with a slightly acquiline nose in the middle of her handsome face; her friend was fair, plump and pretty.

"Lydia, darling," said Julia, after a bit, "you are the funniest contradiction I ever yet met. You wear spurs."

"No, only one."

"A spur; and you jump over hedges and ditches and break your neck like a rough man; and you let off horrid guns; and you whistle; and you have smoked a cigarette; and you mean to act in the thingummies; and yet you are romantic, and so very romantic!"

"But don't you see that is just where it is," cried Lydia: "it is because I am sick to death of what is commonplace, that I am always wanting to try something new and unusual. Men seem so much happier than women, that I wish to know what it is that makes them so. But as far as poor William goes, I do not see anything so very romantic in being commonly faithful and truthful. If you make a promise, you can keep it, I suppose, without being silly. Besides, I don't know why it is called romantic to love any one. You do not think yourself so for loving your husband or your baby, do you? It is not romantic of me to love papa and mamma, is it?"

"But do you really love William Waters, dear?"—said Julia. "Did you know your mind when you played at loving him? It seems to me that Mr. Staunton is worth half-a-dozen of him."

"How can you tell, Julia? You have never seen him since he was a mere boy. What prejudice!"

"Why, to begin with, if he were worthy of such romantic devotion as you propose to bestow on him," said Julia, "he would have managed to communicate with you, and urge his suit before this. In the next place, I do know him, for he is articled to a solicitor in Halifax, and my husband asks him to dinner sometimes. Well, knowing as he does what friends we were, would he not have spoken to me about old times, and tried to make me his confidante, if he had been good for much?"

"And he never did?"

"Never!"

"You never told me you knew him."

"No. I hoped that you had forgotten all about him. It had no patience with a man who could once fall in love with my Lydia, and then put up quietly with a separation from her against her will too. He cannot have the spirit of a mouse! I cannot bear a tame man."

"It Mr. Coutsher so wild, then?"

"Tame enough for me, dear; that is quite right—I did not mean that. But if I had thought he would have given me up for a rebuff from a parent, or any one but myself, I would not have had him for anything."

"Well, my prosaic Julia," cried Lydia breaking out into laughter, "that is a most delightful finish to a sermon against romance that ever I heard of! But perhaps you misjudge poor William! It is agreed that I am to come and see you at Halifax. Perhaps I shall meet him, and then I can tell for myself whether he is what I imagine him, or a faithless swain."

"Oh, I have no doubt he will catch fire again quickly enough when he sees you; and then, think what a match you would be for him!"

"Oh, but I mean to see him without his knowing me."

"How can that possibly be?"

"I have my idea; but I will not tell it you to-night. You have had a long journey and must be tired. And, I declare! if we have not been gossiping for three hours."

II.

At half-past three o'clock one afternoon, a month after the termination of Mrs. Coutsher's visit to her "fast" friend in Suffolk, towards the middle of November that is, a young man left the office of Millikin & Bowie, solicitors, Halifax, and walked up the street. He had a new-looking hat, a carefully-fashioned coat, the last peculiarity in collars, creaseless gloves, small boots, and an umbrella, which it would be a pity to open, it was rolled up so neatly.

Some men seem to have an instinct that if they are to be noticed at all they must trust to their attire to produce an effect; and it appears to be a natural law that the more insignificant any creature is, the greater is its desire to attract attention. What does an insect do when he has no beauty to please you, no sting to irritate you withal? Why, he commits suicide in your eye.

But an illustration is a dangerous thing, and apt to carry one too far, for this young man was esteemed good-looking by those who took the trouble to notice him sufficiently to judge. His complexion was pretty, his auburn whiskers—they were not red—long and silky, and his figure was straight and well-proportioned; and yet, somehow, he only impressed the casual observer with his clothes.

A brougham was coming down the street, with a sensible-looking man, who was its only occupant,—lounging comfortably inside, reading the *Lancet;* but happening to look up from the paper, he saw the young man, waved one hand, pulled the check-string with the other, and presently stepped out on to the pavement.

"How do you do, Waters? It is lucky that I saw you, as it has saved me the trouble of writing a note, and you that of answering it. My wife told me to mind and ask you to come and dine with us to-morrow—to meet a relative of hers, a young fellow who has just got his commission in the cavalry. Are you disengaged?"

"Perfectly; and I shall be charmed. Mrs. Coutsher well, I hope